



**NEW JERSEY
EDITION**

The Worker

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February 11, 1950
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The New York-Harlem Edition of The Worker

This issue of the New York-Harlem Edition of The Worker marks the merger of the Harlem Edition and the regular Two-Star Edition. The editors of The Worker consider this an important change. We consider the developments in the Harlem community to be the concern of ALL New Yorkers. We feel, also, that Harlem residents should be acquainted through our pages with what is going on in every other community.

Our paper believes in, and fights for, the unity of Negro and white. We hold that white workers and progressives have as a responsibility the fight for the rights of the Negro people as an important part of the fight for peace and to defeat our home-made fascists.

We call on our readers to use this edition of our paper in the fight against white supremacy and racist poison on the job, in lily-white neighborhoods, or wherever it shows itself. And we would appreciate further suggestions as to how we can better contribute to the unity of Negro and white, to the full liberation of the Negro people in alliance with the working class.

— The Editors.

Negro History Week

— See Magazine Section —



MRS. JOSEPHINE GRAYSON (second from left), widow of one of the executed Martinsville Seven, Francis D. Grayson, participating in the Sunday night vigil at the White House with her youngest son, James Walter, four, and William Patterson, executive secretary of the Civil Rights Congress. President Truman refused to see Mrs. Grayson, who came to Washington with her five children.

MASS MEMORIAL SET TO HALT MORE 'MARTINSVILLES'

Harlem Rally Mon. to Map Fight for Other Negro Victims

— See Page 3 —

Pass 10,000 Mark; Sub-Getters Up Goals

The campaign for 30,000 subscriptions for The Worker went over the 10,000 mark last week, as supporters of the paper throughout the country stepped up their activities in its behalf.

The campaign is scheduled to end on Feb. 25. It started rolling seriously less than two weeks ago.

Figures in the chart (Page 8) show mail subscriptions received in The Worker business office as of Tuesday. Several hundred home delivery subs and many others not yet received by the business office, swell the actual total obtained in the campaign thus far to about 12,000.

Following New York's lead, Illinois supporters have increased their goal from 2,000 to 3,000 subscriptions. With 1,100 actually obtained to date,

campaigners in that state have set themselves the job of hitting the original 2,000 goal by Feb. 12, and then going on from there for another thousand by Feb. 25.

"The mounting struggle for peace and the excellent response of the people to the sub drive open new perspectives for going over the top in Illinois," Gilbert Green, Illinois Communist Party chairman, and Claude Lightfoot, secretary, declared in a statement explaining their support to the decision to increase the state goal by a thousand.

New Yorkers jacked up their quotas from 10,000 to 18,000 less than three weeks ago. Together with home delivery subscriptions, they hit the halfway mark of 9,000 last Sunday, and expect to go to

nearly 13,000 by the end of this week.

Brooklyn campaigners remained far in the lead, with two-thirds of their 5,500 goal already reached. They hope to reach 5,000 subs, or only 500 short of their goal, by the end of this week. The original target of 3,000 set at the beginning of the campaign has already been left far behind.

Five Brooklyn communities have gone over the top, and have launched a drive for 25 percent above their goals.

Manhattanites, with more than 1,200 subs in last week, outstripped Brooklyn for the first time since the campaign opened. They are shooting for 1,500 this week, which will bring them to 65 percent of their goal of 7,000.

Tenants Lobby Tuesday to Fight Rent Hike

— See Page 2 —



Tenants Move on Albany Tuesday to Fight Rent Hike

The largest tenant delegation ever organized is expected to converge on Albany, Tuesday, Feb. 13, to force the Dewey-controlled Legislature to defeat the McGoldrick rent boost bill. Unless the Legislature acts by Feb. 15, the plan set forth by Joseph D. McGoldrick, state rent czar, automatically opens the door to 15 percent rent boosts and numberless evictions.

Despite efforts of newspaper headlines to make it appear that the battle is about over and lost for the tenants, members of the New York Tenant Council, of unions affiliated with the United Labor Action Committee, and the American Labor Party, making up the mass lobby, are determined to force a showdown with the GOP administration.

By its action last week, the Republican majority has shown that it wants to avoid a showdown vote on the McGoldrick plan. It would rather the landlord-favoring scheme went into effect without a show of hands in order to escape the wrath of the voters. By a vote of 81 to 65 the Assembly voted last Monday to block a Democrat-

ic move to bring out a resolution disapproving the McGoldrick plan. In that vote three Republicans broke ranks to join the Democrats.

However, a big fight around the disapproving resolution of State Sen. William Bianchi, Republican-American Labor Party, is expected to break out on Tuesday when hundreds of delegates will be on hand to watch the floor fight.

If the Bianchi measure passes the Senate where a switch of five votes are needed, the measure then goes to the Assembly. The switch is by no means out of the question. With delegates on hand some of the Republican Senators from New York City and upstate cities, who are sensitive to tenant pressure may be forced to go along with the Democrats. The Democrats may also be forced to put up a fight because of the presence of the delegates.

In addition to the tenant lobby hundreds of other citizens, including parents, teachers, trade unionists, are expected to swamp Albany for the budget hearing. All in all they will make up one of the largest lobbies seen in the Capital in recent years.

The 81 to 65 vote in the Assembly shows that the lines are not so frozen even among the Republicans that a shift cannot be effected. The 16 vote majority won by the Republicans can be whittled down with consistent pressure from now until February 15. A strong possibility exists for revisions of the 15 percent increase-mass eviction bill.

Democrats are already on the spot with consumers for Mayor Impellitteri's increased tax demands.

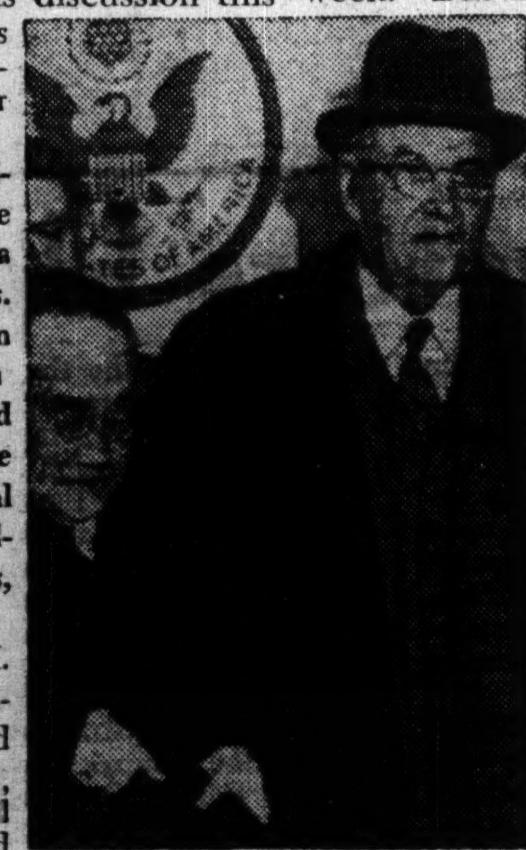
UN Gags China's Voice on Charge Against U. S. Gov't

Having forced the delegate of People's China to return home last December by cutting off debate on the charge of U. S. aggression in China, the United Nations majority abruptly returned to its discussion this week. But the discussion in the Assembly's main Political Committee was launched in the absence of a Peking spokesman, and without prior announcement to China.

People China's envoy, Wu Hsueh-chuan, had been prevented, before his departure, from delivering a speech on his country's charges. This week, despite a request from Chinese Foreign Minister Chou En-lai that Wu's speech be read to the UN and distributed, the Washington-dominated Political Committee majority upheld a ruling by 32 to 6, with 16 abstentions, that the speech not be heard.

Before the committee, S. K. Tsarapkin charged that investigations by People's China revealed that from Aug. 31 to Dec. 31, U.S. planes violated Chinese soil on 328 occasions, with 16 killed and 115 injured. Some 1,500 American planes took part in these air attacks over Manchuria, Tsarapkin said, and charged that they were part of an "aggressive" policy against People's China.

In a new resolution on the subject submitted by the Soviet



WARMAKER John Foster Dulles is pictured with Japanese Prime Minister Shigeru Yoshida (left) on the way to a conference with Gen. MacArthur in Tokio. Dulles offered a pact under which U.S. troops would remain after a peace treaty.

Scanning the News

Asks Stand on Re-Arming Nazis



BEN GOLD

BEN GOLD, president of the International Fur and Leather Workers, invited Jacob S. Potofsky, president of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers, and Joseph Breslaw, manager, Local 35, International Ladies Garment Workers, to join him and other trade union leaders in addressing a rally to protest German rearmament...

Extensive plans for celebrating the 70th birthday on Feb. 25 of William Z. Foster, national chairman of the Communist Party, were announced... The American Labor Party called on Gov. Dewey to honor his public pledge to ensure public hearings on the state civilian defense bill, which would give the governor dictatorial powers... Louis Weinstock, veteran painters' leader, was reinstated in the industry's welfare plan, after having been ousted from it by the reactionary administration of Painters District Council 9. It was under Weinstock's leadership that the welfare plan had been won.

The widow of Herman Newton, a Negro slain on Memorial day, 1949, by a Brooklyn cop, was awarded \$50,281 damages in Kings County Supreme Court. Mrs. Lottie Newton, the mother of one child, had been on relief since her husband was slain...

Helps Gangland Big Shots

Harry Bridges, president of the International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union, told the Marine Cooks & Stewards that his organization will support their fight against AFL and CIO raids...

The Australian government threatened to use force to get workers back on the job as coal and rail strikes spread, and dock workers warned that they will refuse to work overtime because of an unsatisfactory wage award...

Thirty-nine Protestant ministers, Jewish rabbis and other religious leaders from New York and Connecticut urged the New York State Board of Regents not to ban the showing of the film, *The Miracle*... Farmers of New Jersey and Pennsylvania, meeting in the eastern division convention of the Farmers Union, called for "peace and parity, the two essentials for the family-sized farm..." More than 20,000 signatures of a petition urging freedom for Lt. Leon Gilbert were sent to President Truman by the Los Angeles Civil Rights Congress.

For the second time in recent months, Sen. Pat McCarran, author of the police state law which bears his name, tried to block contempt citations and prosecution for some of the nation's biggest operators of organized gambling and vice... Editor & Publisher, organ of the newspaper industry, condemned the Newsdealer Association efforts to restrict Daily Worker sales, and reaffirmed the right of the paper to publish and circulate freely...

Joe McCarthy's Praise

Fifty Klan Kluxer gangsters used heavy sticks and a gun butt to beat Mrs. Evergreen Flowers, Negro mother, in her Whiteville, N.C. home. The New York Jewish Daily Forward had to run a retraction of one of its anti-Soviet stories, when the subject of the story, Mordecai Namir, head of the Israeli labor federation, Histadruth, cabled the statement that he had only "praise and gratitude" for the Soviet government's aid in his search for his aged mother...

The National Labor Conference for Peace voted support for the People's Peace Lobby in Washington, March 1... Sen. Joseph F. McCarthy (R-Wisc) well-known tax-evader and witch-hunter, applauded the freeing of top Nazis as "extremely wise"... Thurgood Marshall, counsel for the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, in Japan investigating the courts martial of 39 Negroes enlisted men and officers, cabled home that there is no doubt but that there was Jimcrow bias in the cases...

The U. S. Immigration Service arrested 83 Chinese residents in three Brooklyn raids...

Legislative aides of Gov. Herman Talmadge of Georgia introduced a bill which would end public schooling and turn the schools over to private enterprises if courts should rule that Negro students must be admitted to classrooms hitherto restricted to whites only.

Dodge Workers Rap Methods Of Wage-Price Freeze Board

DETROIT.—Dodge Local 3 of the CIO Auto Workers Union at a recent membership meeting adopted a resolution against the way the wage-price freeze has been put into effect.

They demanded firing of the whole wage-price stabilization board. The local has a membership meeting of some 30,000 members and is the second largest local in the UAW-CIO.

The resolution was brought into the meeting by the local PAC com-

mittee. The discussion on the entire issue of freezing wages and freezing prices at the present level was sharply scored by the rank and file workers in the discussion.

The immediate response of the Dodge unionists was in sharp contrast to UAW president Walter Reuther and his International Executive Board who while in session this week here have so far made no protest of any kind but are reported "studying" the situation.

Martinsville Spurs Fight

(Continued from Page 3) against the colored people of the Far East. "This is a real danger signal for the life and welfare of 15,000,000 Negro people in America," Benjamin Davis and Pettis Perry of the National Negro Work Commission of the Communist Party declared.

They said President Truman's re-

fusal to intervene amounted to an announcement of the government's assumption of the role of the lynch-mob."

From the Communist Party's national committee came a call for white workers in trade unions to join the Negro people against the "mass murder now being organized in the Pentagon and State Department and by Truman."

*

FROM William Patterson whose Civil Rights Congress was in the forefront of the fight to save the lives of the seven innocent men came a warning that "this legal lynching is a signal to the Ku Klux Klan and all fascist-minded elements that 1951 will be open season for Negro baiting and hunting. Stop this new mounting wave of American fascist terror now."

In Richmond, Va., where the men were dragged to the deaths in the state penitentiary, the burning death smell filled the nostrils of the people. The horror of the mass executions spread through the South.

Only Gov. John Battle, and the Negro-hating federal and state judges who had turned down every appeal to spare the lives of the men were unmoved. They said nothing. They left it to the newspapers in Richmond and the South to applaud the executions.

But the Negro people in Richmond, who for the first time in years had moved together against the South's slave masters, were still moving. Nine hundred of them, joined by a number of whites, had conducted a mass prayer meeting for the men and then proceeded along Richmond's main street to the state capitol to complete their prayers. They wore mourning bands on their arms and bore floral wreaths in their hands.

*

THEIR procession came four days after 500 civil rights fighters from almost every part of the nation drove through icy roads in a caravan to the South that made history. It was the Underground Railway—1951 version. It was the

spirit of the Abolitionists, standing before the Dixiecrat slaves.

Another caravan came to Washington, as well, to establish a vigil before the White House. President Truman, however, sent word that he was "familiar" with the case, but that he wasn't seeing anybody about it. Lawyers appeared before Supreme Court Chief Justice Vinson, Truman's Dixiecrat appointee, and Justice Harold Burton, Truman's Republican appointee. The two brushed aside all appeals.

Only the people responded to the growing appeals to save the men. Leaflets by the thousands and hundreds of thousands were spread in every major city in the country. They were soon followed by an avalanche of telegrams and phone calls to the White House and governor's office in Richmond.

It was not the people who failed to save the lives of the Martinsville Seven. They jumped in with all their might when they learned what was to be done to the men. The 70 other Negro victims of Truman's white supremacy policies are now counting on more of the people to prevent their death and imprisonment.

Defense counsel, in addition to Hays and Pelleteri, are Raymond Pace Alexander, of Philadelphia, chief counsel; J. Mercer Burrell, of Newark; former Judge Frank S. Katzenbach and Clifford R. Moore, both of Trenton.

Despite the legal alertness of the defense, it was clear to observers familiar with such cases, that the odds favoring the eventual electrocution of these men could be cut down only by a mass movement which would put the world spotlight on Trenton's Mercer County Courthouse.

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Trenton 6

(Continued from Page 3)

nounced also that they will apply for a change of venue, moving the trial from the biased atmosphere of Trenton. If this fails, the defense will seek a "foreign jury," drawn from one additional county to the present Mercer County jurisdiction.

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BROOKLYN

DON'T BE A bedbug! Crawl out and creep over to our Party. You'll meet more, more creeps. Dancing, entertainment and eating. Free food! Seriously speaking. Donation 75 cents. Brooklyn LYL, 4222-13th Ave. 8:30 p.m.—F. S. Arch March just left town!

SUNDAY

Manhattan

DR. ANNETTE T. RUBINSTEIN, educator and outstanding literary critic, will discuss "The Negro in American Literature Today," including such outstanding contemporary writers as Shirley Graham, Langston Hughes and Countee Cullen, and Jesse B. Semple. ALP, 220 W. 80 St. (B'way). Discussion and social. Subs. 75c.

MOSES MILLER speaks: "Israel at the Crossroads," at ALP, 82 Second Ave. Sunday, Feb. 11 at 8:15. Subs. 35c.

SALUTE TO NEGRO History Week. Negro, Jewish, Chinese Song and Dance Brotherhood Festival at Peoples Drama Theatre, 212 Eldridge St. Sunday afternoon, Feb. 11, 3:00 p.m. Artists: Al Moss, Edith Segal, Charles Riley, Chao-li Chi, Mort Freeman, Frank Silvera, Master of Ceremonies. Tickets \$1.20 at Peoples Drama Theatre, GR 5-3836 and Bookstores. Tickets going fast, hurry.

JEFFERSON SCHOOL starts a weekly program dedicated to Negro Peoples and their History, with a Film and Cantata on the History and Culture of the Negro People, at 8, Sunday, Feb. 11.

Brooklyn

BANQUET in behalf of L'Unione del Popolo, tendered by Garibaldi Society, TWO, Lodge 2613 at 2075-208th Street, Brooklyn. Sunday afternoon, Feb. 11 at 2 p.m. Entertainment and honored guests. Donation \$3.

HAVE a great time at ALP Smorgasbord Party. Les Fines will head a sparkling revue. Dancing. 1190 St. John's Place (cor. Albany Ave.) Sunday, Feb. 11. 8:30 p.m. Subs. \$1.50.

CORNING

SHOLOKOVOV will be the author discussed by Dr. Dorothy Brewster on "Writings for Tomorrow's World" at the Jefferson School, 375 Sixth Ave. Monday, Feb. 12, at 8:30 p.m. Adm. \$1.

MARRIAGE and Family Life, will be discussed by Marie Tarall, Monday, Feb. 12, at the Jefferson School, 375 Sixth Ave. Adm. \$1. 8:30 p.m.

RATES:

35 cents per line in the Daily Worker
40 cents per line in The (Weekend) Worker

8 words constitute a line
Minimum charge 2 lines
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DEADLINES:

Daily Worker:
Previous day at noon
For Monday's issue
Friday at 5 p.m.
Weekend Worker:
Previous Wednesday

at 4 p.m.

What War Tax Will Cost You

(Continued from Page 4)

ed by Snyder is expected to raise \$4 billion in additional taxes on personal incomes, \$3 billion in higher corporation taxes, and \$8 billion in excise taxes.

The heaviest burden falls on the groups with annual incomes of \$5,000 or less. The increases on them are roughly 20 percent. Snyder is going easy in taxing profits because the Administration says that would "reduce incentives."

But corporation profits reached the staggering figure of an annual rate of \$48 billion in the last quarter of 1950 and may well rise to \$58 billion in 1951. Obviously profits constitute the most promising source of federal revenues.

Here is how it can be done.

Taxes on corporations now take only \$20 billion a year, leaving them \$28 billion in profits. The same rate would leave them \$38 billion in 1951 if profits rise as many expect to \$58 billion.

Truman wants \$16.5 billion. Take this from the \$38 billion and the corporations would still have \$21.5 billion in profits after taxes which is as much as they got in the peak profit years of World War II, the best in their history up till that time.

"It's their war," Joe Doakes might say, "let them pay for it."

PEACE... OR WAR
the great debate

a symposium at TOWN HALL
113 West 43rd Street
SUN. FEB. 11th, 7:45 p.m.

Moderator:

PROF. JOHN J. DEBOER
U. of Ill. Nat. Chairman ASP

Speakers:

DR. MARK A. DAWBER
Ex-Sec., Home Missions Council of No. America

PROF. E. FRANKLIN FRAZIER
Howard University, Author

REV. JOHN PAUL JONES
Union Church of Bay Ridge

DR. PHILIP MORRISON
Cornell University, Physicist

HON. HERBERT PELL
Former Congressman, ex-Minister Portugal and Hungary

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NEGRO HISTORY WEEK opens Sun. Eve., Feb. 11, 8 p.m. with address by a noted author and historian

Public Exhibition
Feb. 12th to 22nd
The Negro People in Music

Concert, Sunday,
Feb. 18th at 4 p.m.

FIRST BRONX FILM SHOWING OF

"History of U. S. Negro"

1619—1865

Just Released After 2 Years in the Making

Speaker: DOXEY WILKERSON

Saturday, February 10th

STARTS 8:45 P. M.

Social and Refreshments
FORDHAM AND KINGSBURG AMERICAN LABOR PARTY
1 East Fordham Road (Cor. Jerome Ave.)

"Freedom Road" HOOTENANNY

featuring: Al-Ye Trio, Laura Duan, Ernie Lieberman, Frank Lopez, Rev. Gary Davis, Charles Riley, Bob Claiborne, Bill Robinson, Hector Bailey, more. Dancing too. Penthouse, 13 Astor Place. Tickets \$1.00 in advance reserved, \$1.20 at door, available at Bookshops, and Peoples Artists, 106 East 11th Street, GR 7-6816.

Sat. Feb. 23rd, 8:30

American Premiere of a PEACE CANTATA by HANNS EISLER

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ANNUAL DANCE

Sat. February 17th — 8:30 p.m.

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"SUPERB, ONE OF THE BEST"—Daily Worker

SPECTACULAR ACTION DRAMA in Glorious MAGICOLOR

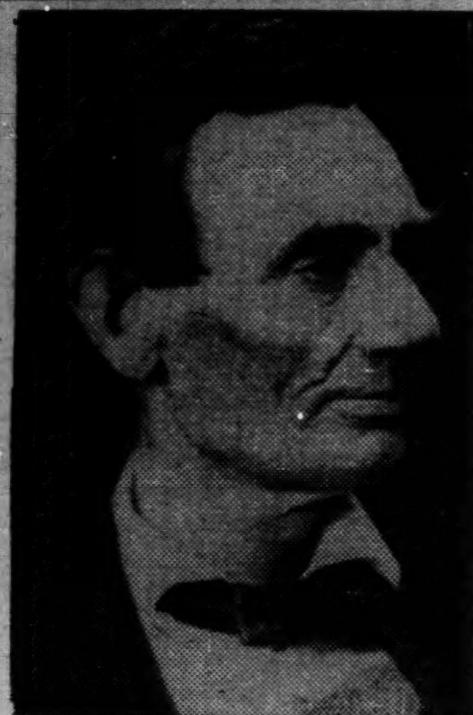
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PROTEST MARTINSVILLE — SAVE THE TRENTON SIX!
LINCOLN'S MASS MEETING
BIRTHDAY
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 11 — 2 P. M. SHARP
Masonic Hall, 188 Belmont Ave., Newark

Speakers: ELIZABETH GURLEY FLYNN — Member of Communist Party Nat'l Committee
 MRS. BESSIE MITCHELL — Sister of one of the framed Trenton Six

Children's Nursery — Tickets 50c (incl. tax) — **Auspices:** New Jersey Communist Party

Witnesses Bare Pennsy Railroad Negligence in Jersey Holocaust

WOODBRIDGE.—The twisted wreckage of the state's worst railroad disaster was still smouldering, with 82 dead, when the Pennsylvania R.R. Corp. began trying to fix the blame on the man who drove the train. In a deal that recalled last year's two wrecks on the Long Island Railroad—a subsidiary of Pennsylvania R.R.—Pennsy officials immediately rushed into print with charges that the engineer, Joseph H. Fitzsimmons, was going too fast.

Eyewitnesses refuted the charge. Irving W. Teeple of Leonardo, a Newark attorney, said:

"I heard the engineer throw on the brakes three times. He was doing his level best to hold her back." Fitzsimmons is a veteran of 33 years service.

Robert Thaler, of Pine Tree Lane, Fairhaven said he had notified Pennsy officials of an overheated journal box at the Newark station. Thaler said he had seen dense smoke coming from the box before he got aboard the train.

Engineer Fitzsimmons, who had a spotless safety record, said there were no "slow" signals on the approach to the disaster point. "I applied the brakes before we got to the trestle but it was too late," Fitzsimmons said.

The trestle referred to was a temporary affair thrown up to divert traffic from nearby construction on the New Jersey Turnpike. It had been opened only four hours and 33 minutes before yesterday's disaster. A contributing factor, witnesses agreed, was overcrowding of the coaches—an old Pennsy habit.

Among the 83 known dead were George W. C. Carter and his nephew, Robert H. McCarter-Young, both of Rumson, N.J., both members of the multi-millionaire McCarter family, which controls

The two McCarters who died in yesterday's Pennsy crash were the great grandson and great grand-nephew respectively of Thomas N. McCarter.

President of the new Public Service Corporation—and controlling stockholder, with an investment of only \$33,334—was Attorney General Thomas Nesbitt McCarter.

McCarten quashed the indictments. Three months later the North Jersey street railway charter was liquidated and given to a new transportation company — Public Service Corp.

On Dec. 16, 1949, Judge Charles Hutchinson had before him the demand of Civil Rights Congress attorneys that Volpe be forced to produce that evidence. It was that day—and on that demand—that Judge Hutchinson ordered the CRC attorneys out of the case.

Alive, the Trenton Six are human testaments to the most shocking frameup in Northern history. Sworn testimony and airtight evidence prove that none of the six was anywhere near the scene of the murder of William Horner Jan. 27, 1948. This is the record:

Collis English

was arrested on a minor motor vehicles charge—then held for murder after Public Safety Commissioner Duch issued orders for mass roundups of Negroes in the Horner case. Every minute of English's time was accounted for the day Horner was struck down in his store with a soda-pop bottle. At the very time the crime was committed, Collis English was cashing his Navy disability check.

Ralph Cooper

was signing for a special delivery package, far from the scene of the crime, when William Horner was attacked. The mailman testified to that. Cooper was sentenced to death in spite of that fact.

James Thorpe

had his right arm amputated 10 days before the murder. He was still taking treatments when the crime was committed. No

TRENTON.

THE SIX NEGRO MEN sat at the side of the courtroom, hardly noticed by the judge. It wasn't their day. It was the State's day. They listened quietly as Prosecutor Mario Volpe intoned to every one of the panel members called for questioning as prospective jurors: "Are you prepared to render a verdict that would result in the execution of the defendants? Are you prepared . . . sentence . . . sentence of death?

DEATH WAS THE WORD most frequently used by the State that day. For the State, the six Negroes at the side of the courtroom were marked for death because they hadn't committed the murder for which they were framed three years ago . . . and because, sustained by the support of millions throughout the world, they had stayed alive to fight a frameup which has bared Jimcrow justice to its rotting bone.

THAT FIRST DAY, of the 19 prospective jurors questioned, two were Negroes. Both were challenged . . . by the State.

Of the 19, one referred to his membership in a union, the CIO Steelworkers Roebling

local. He was challenged . . . by the State.

There were some, of course, whom the State didn't challenge. Mrs. Jane Stults, for example, who said her husband had been a bartender for swank Casa Lido—the nightclub which hired County Prosecutor Volpe as its private lawyer to defend it against charges of violating the state's anti-discrimination laws by refusing to serve Negroes. . . . The State didn't challenge her.

Or Marie Flannery, state employee who worked last year in the very courthouse where the Trenton Six were being tried again for a murder they didn't commit . . . who is related by marriage to both Capt. McBride and Officer Hutton of the Trenton police force . . . who said she had "never discussed the case, never," but who remarked casually: "I think they're guilty . . ." The State didn't challenge her.

Or Mrs. Gertrude Tweedale, whose husband is an executive in the lily-white engineering department of De Laval Turbine Co. and who admitted she has "some prejudice" against Negroes. . . . The State didn't challenge her, either.

ON PAGE 3 OF THE WORKER you will find the story of this week in Mercer County Courtroom, including the brazen refusal of Prosecutor Volpe to make public the fingerprint evidence and police blotter records that would add to the proof of the six men's innocence. It happened this week, but it isn't a new story.

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witness described a one-armed man in the attack. Neighbors testified they saw Thorpe in front of his house all morning. But police forced him to sign a "confession" by threatening to beat his freshly-amputated arm-stump.

McKinley Forest

was at work at the Katsoff Market the morning William Horner was attacked. At the very time of the murder, he was making a bank deposit for his employer. Both the employer and the bank teller verified this fact. Forest was arrested when he came to the jail to visit his brother-in-law, Collis English. Former Judge F. S. Katzenbach says that when he first saw Forest in jail, the framed man was incoherent and obviously drugged.

MASS ACTION two years ago saved the lives of the Trenton Six. Mass action now can free them. Today—write or wire Gov. Alfred Driscoll, State House, Trenton, N. J. Tell him: drop the frameup indictments! Free the Six Now!

Horace Wilson

was proven by company records and eye-witnesses to have been at work at the Edward Dilatash Co. in Robbinsville, seven miles from Trenton, at the time of the attack on William Horner. A State witness, Dr. J. Minor Sullivan, later said he was convinced of Wilson's innocence.

John McKenzie

was, like McKinley Forest and Horace Wilson, at work at the time of the murder. Company records, a rabbi and the kosher butcher who employed him verified that. Snapped Prosecutor Volpe to the jurors about the rabbi and other Jewish or Negro witnesses: "Are you going to believe our policemen—or people like these?"

TRENTON.—Farmers of Pennsylvania and New Jersey spoke out this week for "peace and parity, the two essentials for the family-sized farm." The 100-odd delegates to the

political, social and economic, which means full justice and world peace.

Stover spoke at the evening banquet which wound up the one-day session. The farm leader's reception was in vivid contrast to the frosty silence that greeted John A. Baker, assistant to the Secretary of Agriculture. Baker said that the Brannan Plan and other advances for the small farmer have been tabled because of "aggression of foreign dictatorships . . . Red imperialist dictatorships."

Classified Ad

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NEGRO HISTORY WEEK:

Sojourner Truth's Spirit Lives In Detroit's Struggles of Today

By Catherine Fletcher

DETROIT.—On the Campus Martius across from City Hall, is a monument to the soldiers and sailors who fought in the war against slavery. It is not a bright and shining monument. Rain, sleet and snow of many years have dulled its finish. And you can plainly see that it has been indecently neglected.

So a person might pass there often without realizing that one of the figures on this monument is a statue in honor of Sojourner Truth, abolitionist, underground railroad leader, fighter for the rights of women, friend of Frederick Douglass, Wm. Lloyd Garrison, John Greenleaf Whittier, Oliver Wendell Holmes and Lucretia Mott.

But there the slim figure sits, arms outstretched, as if to embrace the exploited of the world.

If Sojourner Truth were alive today, what would she think of the conditions of her people in this city? The city where she helped so many freedom-loving people escape slavery into Canada?

What would she say to the Negro women whose sons are sent to war, but who are denied employment in the city's shops and factories, forced to take the underpaid, back-breaking domestic work — when they can get that?

To the thousands of her people who pass there daily, rushing home to the crowded, unsafe, and unsanitary ghettos? To the unemployed, whose numbers are increasing daily, especially among her people? To the older people, the sick, unable to work, who on any kind of flimsy excuse are refused welfare aid.

To the young men, women, older men, any Negro citizen, for that matter, who have no rights as far as the police department is concerned, for police brutality has become the order of the day and is nurtured and condoned by a ruthless city administration?

We know what she would do—we know what she would say. She would do as she did in 1827 when she changed her name from "Isabella" to "Sojourner Truth," as typifying what she intended to do with the remainder of her life — after 30 years of torturous enslavement — travel, speaking and spreading the truth to all men.

Sojourner Truth had known all the horrors and cruelties of slavery. As a small child in Ulster County, New York, where she was born about 1797, her flesh had been torn by the whip and she carried the scars inflicted in these sadistic beatings to her grave.

On July 4, 1827, the time set for her to receive her free papers, and also the year when New York abolished slavery, the slaveowner refused to grant it. For 30 years she had been living for this day, and she was not to be denied. The next morning, taking the rising sun as guide, she escaped.

It was not until 1858 that Sojourner Truth came to Michigan. But before she came here she had more than two ordinary lifetimes. The first, the 30 years of enslavement. The second began in 1827 when she took her freedom—



THESE ARE THE people who hold the key to peace. The solidarity of Negro and white workers is one of the aims of the commemoration of Negro History Week.

through 1843, when she gave up domestic work in New York City and set out with 25 cents traveling, talking with people everywhere, campaigning against the slave system.

She had been one of the first to appeal to the courts for the protection of her rights, waging a successful battle for the return of her son, the only one of her children not to be sold into slavery, who had been kidnapped from New York and taken to Alabama in violation of the New York laws.

In 1851 she attended and spoke at a Women's Rights Convention in Akron, Ohio, and had become a leader in the suffrage movement.

In Washington she fought and won a battle to end the Jim Crow streetcar system. Appalled at the living conditions of her people in that capital city, and contrasting those conditions with the huge, pillared, imposing government buildings, she said to a friend:

"We helped to pay the cost (of these fine buildings). We have been a source of wealth to this republic. Our labor supplied the country with cotton. Beneath a burning southern sun we have toiled in the canebrake and the rice swamps, urged on by the

merciless driver's lash — earning millions of money. Our nerves and sinews, our hearts and blood have been sacrificed on the altar of the nation's avarice. Our unpaid labor has been a stepping stone to its success. Some of its dividends must surely be ours." (Sojourner Truth, Book of Life, pp. 196-197, Tittus).

When this great leader came to Michigan she was no longer a young woman. But she brought the same energy and enthusiasm to the underground movement here. Detroit was the springboard of the railroad and she assisted hundreds of her people across the Mason-Dixon line through Indiana and Michigan and then to safety.

In Detroit, during the Civil War, she visited the soldiers at Fort Pollow, then on Jefferson Avenue, talking with them, encouraging them, singing with them in the Jim Crow barracks. After the Civil War she continued her travels and everywhere she went she saw that emancipation had not meant freedom for her people and she campaigned now for full and equal rights.

Over 80 now, Sojourner Truth settled in Battle Creek and it became her final home. She is buried in Oak Hill cemetery there.

Michigan Edition *The WORKER*

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Reuther Fears Rising UAW Peace Feeling

By William Allan

DETROIT.—How does UAW president Walter Reuther handle the life and death question of war or peace in his pre-convention report, now in the hands of one million auto workers?

He handles it the same way the U. S. State Department does, claiming that the "source" of the war danger is "Soviet aggression." He then goes on to describe how to halt this "aggression" by military means wherever it raises its "ugly head."

But alert to the rising peace sentiment of the auto workers, he ties in a proposal for a widespread campaign of peace propaganda with the bombers because as he says, "the struggle is essentially a struggle for men's minds, their hearts and their loyalties."

Wall Street is not the source of the war danger if one reads Reuther's report. He presents the nation as being a classless society in which C. E. Wilson, Henry Ford, Walter Reuther, David Dubinsky, Truman, the KKK lynchers and their victims, the poor farmers, the oppressed Negro people are all "equal" members of a national unity front representing "our freedom and our democratic way of life."

This is the same "democratic way of life" which recently released 22 Nazi murderers while sending to their deaths innocent

Negro workers in Richmond, Va. And this is the "way of life" that Reuther insists the peoples of the world pledge their loyalty to.

Hence when the Korean people pledge loyalty to their own nation's independence and refuse to donate their minds, their hearts and their loyalties to Reuther's "classless American society," then according to Reuther these Koreans must get "our" double dose of military bombs plus peace propaganda because "they are puppets of Soviet aggression."

This "classless" concept of America by Reuther gets a further workout when he says in his report, "the UAW-CIO has dedicated itself to the task of mobilizing the material as well as the spiritual resources of America to assure that we have the strength to meet both the threat of Communist aggression on the battlefield, and the challenge of poverty. . . ."

Imagine, one union, under one Reuther is going to mobilize the material resources of monopolistic capital of America when the Truman-Wall Street gang won't even "trust" their labor misleaders to head up a single government department or agency, which are all manned by Wall Street operators or their military pals!

An example of how Reuther's boast is merely a paper tiger is what is happening in life to his trillion dollar plan for the next 100 years. It is given two sentences in his report which read, "recently I submitted a proposal to President Truman calling for a 'total peace offensive'." He doesn't repeat the plan or tell his membership if Truman even condescended to answer.

Two Weeks to Wind Up Sub Drive

DETROIT.—The first city-wide mobilization of readers of The Michigan Worker to canvass for subscriptions netted 50 subs. Planned for every day this week are visits with shop workers after work and housewives during the day.

Many of those visited said to return when they get paid.

Bitter winter weather did not stop the sub-seekers who concentrated in Detroit's lower East Side. Many of the sub-getters still have to report.

Michigan (Sunday, Feb. 4), has 200 subscriptions with 800 more to go.

On Sunday, Feb. 11, another city-wide mobilization will be held on Detroit's West Side when Joseph Starsbin, foreign editor of the Daily Worker, will address the sub-getters before they start out for renewals.

On Sunday, Feb. 25, the final mobilization will be made with the prospect of over 100 people turning out to complete the quota of 1,000 subs.

Hear JOE STAROBIN talk on Europe and U.S.S.R.

Foreign Editor Daily Worker

2705 JOY ROAD at SPAGHETTI DINNER

ADM. DONATION \$1.25

Negro History Drama on Stage

Sat. February 10 - 8 P. M.

Strike at K-F Wins Rehiring of Negro

WILLOW RUN, Mich.—Eight thousand members of the UAW-CIO at the Kaiser-Frazer plant here, on strike for 15 days demanding the company rescind the firing of a Negro worker, were reported ready to return to work as the company agreed to cancel the firing.

H. Robinson, the Negro worker,

had taken a poke at an anti-union foreman whose reputation for riding workers was known all over the plant. He had been the cause of many workers being transferred out of his department, the firing of others and was known for pushing workers on the job. The union demanded that the foreman be fired and the worker be returned to work with back

pay. The company refused. A strike vote was taken, 7 to 1. Many of the workers are Southern white workers who took an unequivocal stand that their Negro fellow unionist had to be supported. The foreman is a white Southerner. The foreman's firing has been handed over to an arbitrator, but the worker returns.

Meet Tom Dennis, A New Type of Political Leader

DETROIT.—The top two or three officers in the Republican or Democratic Parties are usually judges or lawyers, independently rich, past middle age, and invariably white.

That is how it must be in the twin parties of war and Jim Crow.

They are afraid of honesty, of fighting leadership, of anyone or anything that is alive. They are afraid of anyone who has suffered from hunger or cold or back-breaking speed-up, or any of the thousand other things workers suffer from under capitalism.

They are especially afraid of the Negro working class. They are afraid of the rising wave of militancy that sweeps across the country, like a fresh breeze of freedom coming up from the ever more and more strongly tortured but struggling Negro people of the black belt of the South.

That is why it is so revealing, why the contrast is so striking, when you meet Tom Dennis, 32-year-old Negro auto worker and veteran of the war against fascism, who is the full-time organizational secretary of the Communist Party of Michigan. For Tom comes from one of the most exploited sections of the people, the Negro working class, the auto workers, where he was hardened and grew strong in the struggle against speed-up, for wage increases, against Jim Crow, and for all the other needs of the auto workers, Negro and white.

TOM'S JOB is one of the two most important posts in the Communist Party of Michigan. He is the one who sees to it that the decisions of the state committee and state convention of his Party are executed.

And that means that he gives leadership to all the workers, Negro and white, men and women, in the life and death struggle for peace, civil rights and security.

What kind of man is this Tom Dennis? Who is he, and why?

As we said, he is a worker and a Negro. For seven years of his life he sold newspapers in the cold dark mornings. He grew up in Ypsilanti, where the restaurants are Jim Crow. So are the soda fountains and housing.

And so was the one show, until Tom, while still in his teens, led the fight against segregation in seating.

"I just wouldn't sit in the part of the show they had reserved for Negroes," Tom said.

There were other beginnings, other sparks that grew until the flame was lit. Like when he told his teacher in grade school that she consistently sent him to the farthest corner from the school when he was in the safety patrol because he was a Negro.

THERE WAS THE TIME he stopped his car to watch a fire in downtown Ypsilanti, as did many other drivers. A cop named Oglesby ("I'll never forget him name or his face," Tom said) told him to "move on, fast!" as only a cop can do. Tom hesitated a moment because he didn't like the way the order was delivered. So the six-foot

Testimonial Feb. 17 To Honor Mrs. Cash

DETROIT.—A testimonial dinner for one of this city's finest and old time progressives, Mrs. Anna Cash will be held Saturday, Feb. 17, at 8 p.m. at the Downtown Tenants Council headquarters, Hastings and Brewster.

Mrs. Cash has been active in the labor and progressive movements for 25 years. She helped in the building of the Unemployed Councils, the International Labor Defense, the building of the CIO and has been a devoted builder of the workers' press, the Daily Worker and Michigan Worker.

Admission to the dinner will be a donation of \$1.

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The Lt. Gilbert Case: Story of All Negroes In Armed Forces

By John Pittman

The story of Lt. Leon A. Gilbert, Jr., young Negro officer of York, Pa., is the story of Negroes in the U. S. armed forces today. Young Gilbert, framed and court-martialed by white senior officers of the 25th Infantry Division, of which his own 24th Infantry Regiment was a part, was sentenced to death. A mass campaign forced a rehearing on his case. And President Truman finally commuted the sentence to 20 years at hard labor.

But Lt. Gilbert courageously continues to assert his innocence, and to fight for full freedom. "Even with him (President Truman) whom I placed all my faith in, I have not found justice," he wrote the Civil Rights Congress, which entered a brief on his behalf and helped to mobilize the campaign to free him. "I must continue to appeal as all small men do when confronted with matters beyond their sphere to organizations or persons powerful enough at least to be heard, to help them find justice if such a thing exists for us."

For Lt. Gilbert, the fight goes on. He defies the lynch-verdict of the court martial, which was affirmed by the top brass and the President himself. Clearly, Lt. Gilbert's fight for his personal freedom coincides with the fight of all the people of the United States for the preservation of their liberties.

SO IT IS with all the other Negroes in the armed forces. Their fight for full equality is a fight for democracy, and as such, generates and joins democratic currents among all the people, currents that stem from the trade unions as well as from other sections of the people, currents which fight for peace as well as democratic rights.

That Lt. Gilbert's fight is not unusual is attested to by a recent announcement of Pentagon officials. These officials declared that they have up for review some 50 court martial cases involving Negro GIs, and "believe" there is one case involving a white GI.

This announcement coincided with the execution of the Martinsville Seven, bringing to 52 the number of Negroes executed on charges of "rape" by the State of Virginia since 1908, which in the same time has never executed a white man on the same charge. This announcement showed that the unequal, Jim Crow treatment of Negro civilians is carried over into the armed forces.

Fact of the matter is that Negroes have had to fight for the right to fight in the armies of the United States throughout the entire history of this country. But the fight for this right, and the fight for equality of treatment in the U. S. armed forces, has made greatest headway during the great just and democratic wars of the United States, when there existed among the people an upsurge for the extension of democracy.

Thus, during the wars of the American Revolution, against the slaveholders' bid for hemispheric domination, and against German fascism's attempt to conquer the world, the integration of Negroes in the armed forces attained high levels. Whereas, during the unjust, aggressive, imperialist wars were accompanied by mounting attacks on the Negro people at home; while, on the other hand, the Negro people made their greatest advances toward citizenship during the periods of the just, democratic wars of defense of the country.

These facts, drawn from the

history and experience of the Negro people as well as from present-day events, forecast the future of Negro soldiers in the current billionaires' war against the Asian people. It is probable that the top brass, conforming to the billionaires' over-all political strategy in relation to the Negro people, will make certain formal motions toward integration for tactical reasons. But they will continue the segregated discriminatory status of Negro troops as an essential element of their racist, imperialist war against the Asian peoples. Freedom for the Negro people, full democratic status for Negro soldiers, can only be won today through the struggle for peace.



LT. GILBERT

The War-Makers 'Honor' Negro History Week

By Benjamin J. Davis

The Wall Street monopolists and their faithful lackey, Pres. Truman, "honored" Negro History Week by committing the most barbarous crime against the Negro people in the modern history of the country—the mass murder of the seven innocent Martinsville youths.

This had just been preceded by the cold-blooded police lynching and robbery of the Negro veteran John Derrick, on the streets of Harlem.

The real honor to the Negro people during this month of an annual observance of Negro History Week came, not from the war-mad government of the United States, but from the peace-loving governments and peoples of the Socialist Soviet Union, led by the great Stalin, and from the new People's Republic of China, led by Mao Tse-tung.

From the Soviet Union, China and the Peoples Democracies of Eastern Europe came cablegrams to America supporting the Negro people and their allies in the nation-wide demand to save the lives of the martyred Martinsville seven.

*

THE WORKER honors Negro History Week by making its local week-end "Worker" edition the "New York-Harlem" edition in order to strengthen its long brilliant and unique leadership for Negro liberation.

It is not accidental that the first victims of the Truman-proclaimed "national emergency" are the railroad workers and the Negro people. For together they are the foundation of struggles of the American people for peace and democracy.

The young Martinsville Negroes are martyrs to the lunatic drive of Wall Street and Truman toward another world war and fascism.

They are victims of Wall Street's monstrous aggression against the people of Korea and China. They were murdered in an attempt to terrorize the Negro people—especially in the deep South—where they are fighting with heroic courage for freedom,

democracy and peace. But this attempt will fail.

The white ruling class and its poll tax governments in the South have lost their human instincts.



BENJAMIN J. DAVIS (above) served six years as Councilman of the City of New York and in that capacity was known as the tribune of the workers and the Negro people. As a member of the National Committee of the Communist Party, Davis led in formulating the Party's position on the Negro question following the rejection of Earl Browder's pro-capitalist policies.

A native Georgian, Davis attended school there and obtained a law degree from the Harvard Law School. It was while defending Angelo Herndon, the young Negro Communist charged in 1932 with "insurrection" for having organized the unemployed of Atlanta, that Davis became a member of the Communist Party.

In addition to his duties assigned to him as a National Committee member, Davis also serves as the chairman of the Harlem Region of the Communist Party.

He is one of the 11 Communist leaders who face 10 years in jail on the framed charge of "conspiracy."

Peace Is on Trial In Pittsburgh

By Art Shields

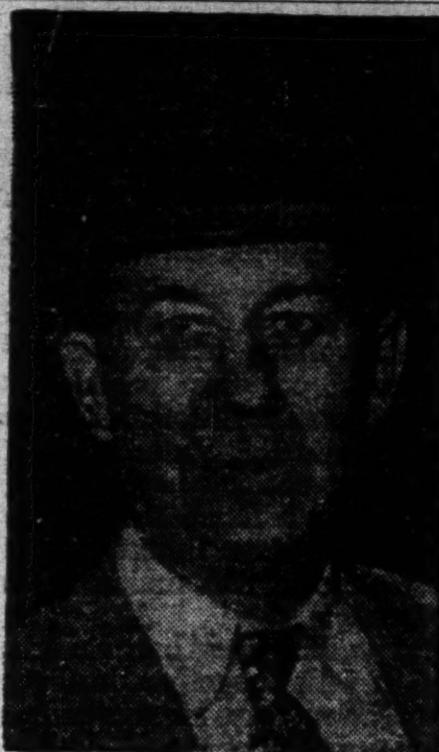
PITTSBURGH.—I almost imagined that I was watching the madhouse scene in Ibsen's "Peer Gynt" as I heard Judge Michael A. Musmanno, the state's star witness, screaming from the witness stand in the "sedition" trial.

The screaming has gone on every day since the Judge took the stand as the prosecutor's chief "expert" on "Communism" and "socialism" and "war" and "peace."

One cannot tell how far this wild, disorderly behavior is calculated. But it fits into the fascist framework of this prosecution of Steve Nelson, the Spanish war hero, who is chairman of the Communist Party of Western Pennsylvania, and of Andy Onda, veteran Communist organizer in the steel and coal towns, and of James Dolsen, The Worker's correspondent.

All three were arrested last summer when they demanded the withdrawal of American troops. In so doing they were threatening the profits of the Morgans and the U. S. Steel magnates and the other big war industry lords who run Pittsburgh.

MUSMANNO is trying to make it impossible for defense counsel to object to the utterly illegal conduct of the prosecution. The slightest objection is likely



STEVE NELSON

to set Musmanno screaming from the witness stand. This Judge of the Court of Common Pleas isn't presiding at this trial. He is testifying only as the prosecution's chief "expert," and as the amateur cop, who raided the Communist Party headquarters last summer. But he begins ranting at the defense attorneys whether he is asked a question or not.

He doesn't merely call defense attorney John T. McTernan a "liar," a "fabricator" and a "perviarator" and a "week-end guest" from Los Angeles, who has no right to tell Musmanno what to do.

He screams these epithets, while his body shakes with rage. And he goes into another frenzy when the tall, dignified defense attorney asks the trial judge to please "keep" order in the court.

ANOTHER BURST of screams follows when McTernan pleads with the trial judge to instruct the witness to speak only in answer to questions.

And Musmanno roars again that he doesn't need any lawyer from Los Angeles to tell him how to behave when McTernan remarks that "it is difficult to know who is running this court."

Trial Judge Henry X. O'Brien, who once compared Stalin to Hitler in remarks from the bench before this trial began, lets his brother Common Pleas judge have on for minutes on end.

Eventually, however, he has to restore order in the court. And the trial record once quotes him as telling Musmanno "Judge, be quiet."

MUSMANNO's "evidence" against the defendants is as irrational as his courtroom behavior.

This provocateur judge says the defendants are guilty of a "sedition" plot to "overthrow" the Government of the State of Pennsylvania because they sold books that—

- Called for peace in Korea;
- Denounced Marshall Tito of Yugoslavia;
- Praised Socialism in general;
- Praised Socialism in the Soviet Union in particular;
- Allegedly advocated "force and violence" against the government through some of these books.

Musmanno's No. 1 exhibit against Nelson, Onda and Dolsen is the famous working class classic, the Communist Manifesto, which Karl Marx and Frederick Engels wrote in 1847.

Then follow Lenin's works and various recent Communist Party documents with emphasis on the Communist's support of peace. He reads brief quotations out of context to the jury.

The Stockholm peace petition against the atomic bomb got Musmanno's special attention last week.

Peace is on trial in this fantastic court proceedings.



The 'Voice' of Henry Bibb Echoes in 'Freedom' Today

By William Allan

DETROIT.—The rediscovery and retelling of the history of the Negro people—which is the purpose of Negro History Week—is not only an act of righting one of the most monstrous historical injustices of all time.

It is also an act full of great meaning for the struggles today of the Negro people for full liberation and of the struggles of the labor movement.

As a working newspaperman I undertook on this occasion to delve into the history of Negro journalists in this state.

And out of long neglected, aging archives I found the inspiring story of Henry Bibb, ex-slave, newspaperman and tireless fighter for freedom.

Henry Bibb was born in May, 1815 of a slave mother, in Shelby County, Kentucky. He was claimed as the property of David White.

His mother's name was Mildred Jackson. She was the mother of seven sons, all slaves.

★

HENRY BIBB at a very early age drank deeply of the bitter cup of suffering and brutal treatment that the slaveholders inflicted on the slaves.

From the time Henry Bibb was a lad, floggings were a daily part of his life. When he was ten years old he ran away for the first time. He was quickly captured and received a flogging that left him prostrate for several days.

He truly says in some of his writings, "I was brought up with the whip and floggings, educated in the schools of chains, whips and adversity."

His slave mother, Mildred Jackson, sought to teach him that man, regardless of color, slave or free, had the right to wages for his labor, a right to wife and children, a right to life and the pursuit of happiness.

Already he understood the thinking of the slaveholders who said a slave could possess nothing,

Greetings on
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Howard to Speak Here March 11

DETROIT.—Charles P. Howard, noted Negro attorney and publisher from Des Moines, Ia., will be the only speaker at the "We Are America" cultural festival on Sunday, March 11, 2:30 p.m., at the Music Hall.

Mr. Howard, first Negro in American history to keynote a national convention of a political party, at the 1948 Philadelphia convention of the Progressive Party, recently returned from a meeting of the World Peace Congress held in Warsaw, Poland. He is a national vice-chairman of the Progressive Party. He will speak on the subject of "Peace and the Fight for Civil Rights."

The program, sponsored by the Civil Rights Congress and the Michigan Committee for Protection of Foreign Born, will feature a cast of 500 singers, dancers, and



CHARLES P. HOWARD:

actors in a dramatic spectacle outlining the history of the struggle for peace and freedom in America. Choruses and dance groups from many nationalities will participate.

nor acquire anything but what must belong to his keeper.

With the thought ever burning in his mind that man had the right to liberty and the pursuit of happiness, Henry Bibb in 1833 made strenuous efforts to equip himself for this goal.

He and a group of other slaves sought to hear and read the spoken word. They organized a Bible class as the only medium they thought the slaveholders would permit the printed word to be handled by the slaves.

But patrols of the slaveholders, forerunners of the KKK, broke up the first class and termed it an "incendiary movement."

This was how the slaveholders sought to fetter the mind as well as the body. For the slave, there was no school and the republic erected no church for him either.

★

HENRY BIBB realized that freedom lay only on one path, to break the chains of slavery, in that way giving the answer to the voice within him that thundered, "Be free, oh, man! Be free."

Sometimes standing on the Ohio River bluff, looking over on a free state, as far north as his eyes could see, Henry Bibb would cry out, "Oh to be able to go to a land where there is no slavery, no clanking of chains, no laceration of backs, no parting of husband and wife."

He was separated from his wife by the policy of the slaveholders who bought and sold slaves regardless of husband and wife relationship. Bibb escaped in 1837. He

travelled day and night, reached Canada by way of Detroit.

ON THE WAY he made his first contact with the fabulous underground railway that was aiding thousands of heroic men and women to free themselves from bondage. Here, for the first time, Bibb experienced being passed from friend to friend, fed, clothed, treated like a human being.

Space does not permit of telling of the six times Bibb returned to the slave South, seeking his wife and child to bring them out of bondage. He was captured with his wife and child as they were at the Ohio River boundary line of freedom.

He relates in his biography how the slave holders sought to make an informer out of him. They promised him his deepest desire, Freedom, if he would tell the stations, conductors of the underground railway. He refused.

He was then shipped to New Orleans, put on the block along with his wife and child for sale.

During the period in prison, before he went to New Orleans, a number of prisoners, who could read and write taught him what little they knew of reading and writing. This, together with three weeks of schooling that he got later in Windsor, Canada, was all the formal education he ever had.

★

HE FINALLY got back to the banks of the Detroit River. In 1842 he took up residence. In 1844 he attended a Michigan convention of Colored Men that was dedicated to the fight against slavery.

Soon he was active in the Anti-Slavery Societies here. Michigan, according to historians, was one of the strongest anti-slavery states. In May 1844 he made his first speech against slavery in the village of Adrian, Michigan.

Together with two white men, Samuel Brooks and Amos Dresser, he travelled through Ohio, organizing and lecturing against slavery.

It was a perilous road many

times, coming into towns, speaking in the market places where hoodlums were hired to attack the abolitionist speakers.

But as with Frederick Douglass, Sojourner Truth, Harriet Tubman, William Loyd Garrison and many others, the path had to be trod, the slaves had to be freed.

It was especially difficult for a Negro. Once after having paid his passage on an Erie Canal boat he was refused the right to sit at the dining table with whites. When the ship tied up, Henry Bibb, a newspaperman himself, found a newspaper, told the facts and had the satisfaction of seeing the discriminators' names printed on the front page in condemnation by an anti-slavery editor.

★

In 1844 Henry Bibb found his place in the political party of anti-slavery of that time—the Liberty Party, made up of Negro and white. This party was for freeing the slaves, for placing them on the land. Bibb toured Michigan for the Liberty Party, aiming his speeches against General Lewis Cass, pro-slavery candidate for president. Cass was backed by the Detroit Free Press at that time. Cass was defeated. His "Achilles heel" being his support of slavery. (A recent book on Cass just published by a Free Press writer, one Frank Woodford, received commendation by the present Michigan State Legislature. It maintains the traditions of Cass, by its opposition to passage of a FEPC law and its unseating recently of a Negro Senator.)

During these years Henry Bibb's paper went to press each week. The newspaper, "The Voice of the Fugitive" chronicled every movement that assisted the fight against slavery. It was supported by the dollars and pennies of the people.

It was a fighting challenge to the lickspittle pro-slavery Detroit Free Press which during the Civil War was condemned as backer of the fifth column Copperheads.

★

IT WAS CARRIED into the South and read in many a plantation and village. It was the voice that sounded the note, "Break your chains and fly for freedom."

It carried in its columns the slogan, "Where one is enslaved, all are in chains."

Significantly in America today another Voice of the Fugitive rises to speak.

"Freedom" is the name of the newspaper. Among its most distinguished contributors is the great fighter for peace and freedom for his people, Paul Robeson.

Freedom carries on the great traditions of the Abolitionist press, The Voice of the Fugitives; The Liberator; The North Star; Douglass Monthly.

Just as the Voice of the Fugitive survived through the tireless work of Henry Bibb, so today Freedom is alive and growing, due to the work and assistance of true fighters for freedom and peace.

The lesson down through all the ages about progressive newspapers is that they have brought forward the truth and once the people know the truth they will, in the words of Henry Bibb, fight and organize to "Be free, o man, be free."

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Polish-Negro Unity Is Key In First CD

By Tom X. Dombrowski

DETROIT.—The heaviest voting Democratic Party district north of the Mason-Dixon line stretches from the Detroit River north, through one of the most highly industrialized areas in the country, to the Detroit city limit at 8 Mile Road.

Within it lie the huge Dodge and Plymouth plants of the Chrysler Corp., part of the General Motors empire and hundreds of lesser plants and shops.

Almost in the heart of the district is the most Polish of all cities outside of Poland, Hamtramck; on all sides of this city are large concentrations of Polish Americans and Negroes. As one approaches the rives, one passes through one of the most disgraceful slums in America where tens of thousands of Negroes are forced to live.

The First Congressional District was not always a Democratic Party stronghold. It broke with the party of Hoover in 1932 and proceeded to pile up enormous majorities for Franklin D. Roosevelt for four successive presidential campaigns.

How to smash this New Deal stronghold which persisted even after the betrayal of its program by Truman, became the concern of reaction in both parties. The classic weapons of the ruling class, race hatred and white chauvinism were employed. The attack upon the rights of the Negro people was intensified. Job discrimination and growing housing difficulties further lowered the standard of living already scandalously low. Police brutality increased.

The Negro-white unity which made this district one of the progressive centers in America began to crack. The labor movement remained silent at a time when it should have fought against these premeditated attacks upon Negro people.

The Polish community, at one time fighting side by side with the Negro people, also remained inactive!

The failure of Congressman George G. Sadowski to act on behalf of the tens of thousands of Negro citizens who had reelected him year after year because of his progressive record, saw him defeated. Elected instead was a McCarran-McCarthy type of Democrat, Thaddeus Machrowicz. This was the first partial success of reaction.

During the 1950 reaction campaign, a vicious fight was waged against former Judge Charles Jones, Negro, running for reelection to the Recorders Court. Frank Schemanske, buddy of Machrowicz missed no bets in an anti-Negro campaign to assure his success. The Free Press, consistent with its Copperhead background, was most vociferous in its efforts to discredit Judge Charles Jones.

But reaction was not satisfied. For its next victim in the fight to disenfranchise the Negro people it forced through a resolution in the Michigan State unseating Charles C. Diggs, only Negro Senator, militant fighter for progressive legislation. Most of his senatorial district is in the First Congressional District.

In an attempt to conceal its anti-Negro bias, Anthony J. Wilkowsky, whose district also is in the 1st, was unseated. He too, is elected by Polish-Negro votes, and has an excellent record. Both had CIO and AFL support.

Michigan Edition The WORKER

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Blame City, Bethlehem Steel In Fire That Killed 3 Children

BETHLEHEM.—Outraged residents of this steel town are holding city officials and the Bethlehem Steel Co. responsible for a fire that took the lives of three Negro children, three months, two and four years of age. The children were burned and suffocated to death

Is It Sedition To Fight For Peace?

IS IT SEDITION to fight for peace?

Republican District Attorney John Maurer says it is. The bankers and industrialists for whom Maurer speaks say it is.

They said it when they arrested four women who were selling this paper last Summer and charged them with "sedition" because this paper demanded a halt to the bloodshed in Korea and withdrawal of U. S. troops from that war-torn land.

By the arrest and indictment of the four women these men had hoped to strike a blow at the rising peace movement in Philadelphia and the state of Pennsylvania.

They had hoped, thereby, to silence the most consistent voice for peace in the state, The Pennsylvania Worker.

*

IN THE COURSE of trying to silence this paper the bankers were also trying to take away the right of a free press. They were saying in effect that those who advocate peace and oppose the administration's bi-partisan war policies do not have the constitutional right to publish and freely distribute their views.

This should be an indication of what happens to the basic liberties cherished by most Americans under the pressure of the bankers' drive toward war.

The Pennsylvania Worker said last Summer that the bankers and generals who are trying to plunge us into another world war are the ones guilty of "sedition."

We said that the bankers instigated the war in Korea and are trying to involve us in more wars in order to save and increase their profits at the expense of the American people.

Many Americans have since come closer to agreeing with that point of view. The experiences in Korea are showing that war today only means death for American youth on foreign battlefields and a general deterioration of living and working conditions at home.

Millions of Americans are beginning to see that the fighters for peace today are the best defenders of the interests of our nation.

*

MANY OF THESE FIGHTERS for peace are on the streets of Philadelphia this weekend bringing the message of peace and friendship with the peoples of Asia and Europe to thousands of Philadelphians.

Among them are salesmen of The Pennsylvania Worker. They will be bringing this paper's voice for peace to the people of Strawberry Mansion in a mass sale of The Pennsylvania Worker on Saturday, Feb. 10, at 31 and York Sts., at 2 p.m.

Others will be talking peace as they visit our readers for renewal of their subs to this paper.

As an act in defense of peace and of our nation we call for all-out support for the mass worker mobilization in Strawberry Mansion this Saturday and a renewed effort to put our current circulation drive over the top.

Fight to free the four Worker saleswomen.

Fight for your right to fight for peace!

Thursday, Feb. 1, when the blaze roared through their stucco shack home while their mother, Mrs. Christine Jackson, was out shopping.

The fire spread through the building so quickly that the children were beyond help even before a fire company, located directly across from the Jackson home, could arrive on the scene.

Mrs. Jackson who came home shortly after the fire started, had to be held back by spectators as she made four desperate attempts to save her children.

*

STEELWORKERS here charge that the city, through its discriminatory housing policies, and the Bethlehem Steel Co., are responsible for the death of the children.

They declare that the building is owned by the city and had been condemned for five years. City officials, however, made no attempt to raze the building and provide new homes for its occupants.

Hundreds of Negro families here live under similar housing conditions. They are not admitted to any of the public housing projects.

Bethlehem Steel, they say, contributed to the housing crisis, which has gripped the city for a number of years, particularly in the Negro community, by tearing down the few decent homes in which Negroes were able to live in order to make way for plant expansion.

Eugene Grace, president of Bethlehem Steel, was toasted for helping "beautify and improve" the city after his expansion project was completed. Grace, however, made no effort to provide new homes for the evicted Negro tenants.

*

CITIZENS CHARGE that the city could provide adequate homes for all those needing them if it increased the taxes on Bethlehem Steel property. Even reactionary State Senator Yosko, a Democrat, admitted taxation on Bethlehem Steel was ridiculously low.

Bethlehem Steel could very easily pay increased taxes, having made a 25 percent increase in profits in 1950 over 1949. It made \$123,000,000 last year compared to \$99,000,000 the year before.

The Bethlehem Globe-Times dominated by Bethlehem Steel, recently started a series on the city's housing problem. It surveyed the "squalid" housing conditions along the Lehigh River and

(Continued on Page 8)

PENNA.
EDITION

The Worker

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26
February 11, 1950
16 Pages, Price 10 Cents

Phila. Rallies With Robeson For Peace

PHILADELPHIA.—The eyes of the world will be focused on Philadelphia this weekend as thousands of workers, Negro and white, rally around Paul Robeson in a demonstration for peace and against the barbaric frame-up system that killed the seven Negro Martinsville martyrs last week.

Robeson's world-renowned voice will be heard at a mass rally and concert for peace and Negro rights Saturday night, Feb. 10, at Reynolds Hall, 1416 N. Broad St.

*

ROBESON'S VISIT HAS stirred considerable enthusiasm in the city's powerful Negro community. Bishop C. C. Alleyne is scheduled to appear with him at the Reynolds Hall rally.

His stay here is sponsored by Freedom Associates, local sponsoring committee of the newspaper Freedom, and by the Philadelphia Labor Committee for Negro Rights.

The movement around Robeson has inspired a whole number of actions and demonstrations for peace and against Jim Crow frame-ups here. Thousands of Negro and white workers in North Philadelphia's Fourth Congressional District were mobilized around the case of the Martinsville Seven by a 50-car motorcade that toured the area last Saturday afternoon.

This culminated in a mass rally sponsored by the Progressive Party and Civil Rights Congress at Mt. Sinai Baptist Church, 17th and Poplar Sts.

LAST SUNDAY Democratic Congressman Earl Chudoff was besieged by dozens of voters who sought to have him act in defense of the Martinsville Seven. His house was picketed for three hours until he agreed to meet with a delegation.

And this Saturday afternoon,

(Continued on Page 8)

Call Conference on Rearming Nazis

PHILADELPHIA.—A campaign to defeat the plot to rebuild a Nazi army is underway in Philadelphia. Backed by a considerable number of trade unionists, a committee of

Citizens Against Rearming Germany has been formed and is taking action to mobilize the sentiments of Philadelphians against rearming the Nazis, who murdered 30,000,000 people, among them 6,000,000 Jews.

The Committee, temporarily headed by Irving Paskowitz, president of Fur Workers Local 53, has called a citywide conference and rally for Sunday, Feb. 26, at the Hotel Adelphia.

Anyone may become a delegate to the conference by getting 10 signatures on petitions put out by the committee which demand a halt to the plans to revive the Nazi military beast.

THE PETITIONS also call on Philadelphia's Congressman to act through the introduction of resolutions or otherwise against rearm-

ing of Germany. Among those who signed the call to the Conference are:

Al Brown, David Neifeld, Maurice Cohen, Israel Freedman, Joseph McLaughlin, Mark Gilbert, John L. Bernheimer, Esq., Joseph Leib, Esq., Charles W. Rivise, Esq., Dr. David Buden, Dr. Eli Finkelstein.

Also, Margaret Dungan, Vivian Betton, Mrs. Lillian Narins, Sarah Richmond, Mrs. Helen Splaver.

Signers of the call include members and officers of the Distributive Workers Union, Fur Workers Union, Cap and Millinery Workers Union, Bakers Union, Jewish War Veterans, American Jewish Congress, Jewish People's Fraternal Order, Religious Society of Friends, and a number of other union, church and civic groups.

Readers Double Sub Total In Response to Appeal

PHILADELPHIA.—More subscriptions to The Pennsylvania Worker were garnered last week than during the first two months of this paper's circulation drive.

This was the first response to The Pennsylvania Worker's front page appeal last week for immediate actions guarantee success of the drive for more readers.

Friends of The Worker throughout Eastern Pennsylvania quickly moved into action in response to the appeal and began visiting scores of readers whose subs are running out and former subscribers. A number of the subs were from new readers, indicating that the Pennsylvania Worker's circulation not only can be maintained but increased.

TAKING LEADERSHIP IN the drive is the Communist Party of Eastern Pennsylvania. A statement released by the Party's District Committee declared:

"It is the workers in the shops—and the farmers in the field—the steelworkers, the miners, the stevedores and the electrical workers, the carpenters and the laborers, fighting to defend their jobs, their land and their homes, who fight for peace."

"The growing struggles convince us that we

have thousands of supporters in the outstanding papers of the cause of peace, freedom, and security—the Daily Worker and The Worker. And leading in that decisive part of the fight for peace will be the Communists and the non-Communist readers of the Daily Worker and The Worker.

"The District Committee of the Communist Party of Eastern Pennsylvania and Delaware therefore fully endorses and joins in the campaign to win thousands of new peace fighters to read and support these papers."

Readers were working to get 750 or half of the goal of 1,500 subs by this weekend, 1,200 subs by Saturday, Feb. 17 and 1,500 subs by Feb. 25, the 70th birthday of William Z. Foster.

LEADING THE CAMPAIGN were readers in South Philadelphia who turned in almost twice the number of subs secured in any other area. They explained that organization of their work, daily visits, not just going out on the weekends, accounted for their initial spurt.

West Philadelphia was next in the sub race and the Fourth Congressional District and the Lehigh Valley ran a close third.

USSR Asks Speed on Big 4 Parley; State Dep't Hedges

By Robert Friedman

Once again the Soviet Union has demonstrated its readiness to meet Anglo-American terms for a Big Four peace parley, and once again Washington is casting around for new excuses, in fear that tension on the German question might be eased. When the Soviet Union first proposed a Foreign Ministers conference on German disarmament and unification, the U. S., French and British governments rudely delayed replies for several months, then announced that they would take part in a meeting only if it discussed all outstanding world problems. Just to make sure that the ax was buried deep in the idea of a meeting on the world's most vital problem—Nazi rearmament—State Department spokesmen also stressed that a Big Four meeting "wouldn't work anyhow."

NOW THE SOVIET UNION has renewed its request for a meeting as promptly as possible and, in the spirit of compromise, has agreed to a discussion of any European problems with the understanding that German demilitarization receive priority. (The Council of Foreign Ministers could not properly discuss Far East questions, according to the Potsdam Pact, without China present.)

"Since the French government, like the British and American governments," said the Soviet note delivered to the Paris regime, "declares that it is anxious for lasting improvement in relations between France, Great Britain and

the Soviet Union and for limitation of the causes of the present tension, the Soviet Union considers that there is no reason for putting off any longer the calling of the Council of Foreign Ministers."

There is no peace-serving reason at any rate. Even before an official Washington reply, the State Department propaganda mills are grinding out the explanations to throw cold water on the Soviet request.

WITH FRANKNESS, Drew Middleton, New York Times correspondent in West Germany, wrote Sunday that the impression prevails that "the idea of a four-power conference of the West with the Soviet Union fills many important American personages in Germany and in Washington with alarm and despondency."

And why the "alarm and despondency"? Middleton makes it pretty clear. The Truman government fears that in a united Germany, the Communist Party "will be strong enough" to prevent the rearmament of the country as the reservoir of men and machines for a U. S. which is fighting the Soviet Union. It fears that "even the freest elections would leave the Communist Party as a leading peoples."

minor party in a united Germany...."

Following the release of the Soviet note, the Times' James Reston indicated that the Truman government may seek to stall off a Big Four meeting by insisting that the rearmament of Bulgaria, Hungary and Rumania must also be considered.

TO THE PEOPLE of war-ravaged Europe and to the people of our own country this must appear as shameless cynicism. It was the German Wehrmacht which marched across Europe, not the soldiers of little Bulgaria. It is a revived Nazi army which the world fears.

The world could clearly see and choose between the motivations and actions of the Soviet Union and the Truman-Wall Street gang last week. The latter gave clemency to brutal Nazi killers, turned back the cartels to Hitler Krupp.

It is this policy of Britain, France and the U.S., "tending toward the hasty preparation of a new war," declared the Soviet note, which is increasing greatly "the tension of the international situation and the disquiet of the world."

Having forced the delegate of People's China to return home last December by cutting off debate on the charge of U. S. aggression in China, the United Nations majority abruptly returned to its discussion this week. But the discussion in the Assembly's main Political Committee was launched in the absence of a Peking spokesman, and without prior announcement to China.

People China's envoy, Wu Hsueh-chuan, had been prevented, before his departure, from delivering a speech on his country's charges. This week, despite a request from Chinese Foreign Minister Chou En-lai that Wu's speech be read to the UN and distributed, the Washington-dominated Political Committee majority upheld a ruling by 32 to 6, with 16 abstentions, that the speech not be heard.

Before the committee, S. K. Tsarapkin charged that investigations by People's China revealed that from Aug. 31 to Dec. 31, U.S. planes violated Chinese soil on 328 occasions, with 16 killed and 115 injured. Some 1,500 American planes took part in these air attacks over Manchuria, Tsarapkin said, and charged that they were part of an "aggressive" policy against People's China.

In a new resolution on the subject submitted by the Soviet Union, the UN was asked to condemn the U. S. for these violations.

Indications were that the State Department would seek to hurry through a defeat for the Soviet resolution. This would leave the Political Committee only one item on its agenda—the Washington resolution for an "investigation" of the Taiwan (Formosa) question, which was introduced to detract the Chinese and other charges against the unilateral seizure of the Chinese island by the Truman government.

The Peking Government also rejected last week the recent UN action declaring China the aggressor.

sor in Korea. Foreign Minister Chou En-lai termed the action illegal, asserted that it proved the U. S. Government wants "not peace, but war" and that the General Assembly had "ignored the desire of the peace-loving peoples of the world" in turning down the Arab-Asian peace proposals.



WARMAKER John Foster Dulles is pictured with Japanese Prime Minister Shigeru Yoshida (left) on the way to a conference with Gen. MacArthur in Tokyo. Dulles offered a pact under which U.S. troops would remain after a peace treaty.

Scanning the News

Asks Stand on Re-Arming Nazis



BEN GOLD

BEN GOLD, president of the International Fur and Leather Workers, invited Jacob S. Potofsky, president of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers, and Joseph Breslaw, manager, Local 35, International Ladies Garment Workers, to join him and other trade union leaders in addressing a rally to protest German rearmament....

Extensive plans for celebrating the 70th birthday on Feb. 25 of William Z. Foster, national chairman of the Communist Party, were announced.... The American Labor Party called on Gov. Dewey to honor his public pledge to ensure public hearings on the state civilian defense bill, which would give the governor dictatorial powers.... Louis Weinstock, veteran painters' leader, was reinstated in the industry's welfare plan, after having been ousted from it by the reactionary administration of Painters District Council 9. It was under Weinstock's leadership that the welfare plan had been won.

The widow of Herman Newton, a Negro slain on Memorial day, 1949, by a Brooklyn cop, was awarded \$50,281 damages in Kings County Supreme Court. Mrs. Lottie Newton, the mother of one child, had been on relief since her husband was slain....

Helps Gangland Big Shots

Harry Bridges, president of the International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union, told the Marine Cooks & Stewards that his organization will support their fight against AFL and CIO raids....

The Australian government threatened to use force to get workers back on the job as coal and rail strikes spread, and dock workers warned that they will refuse to work overtime because of an unsatisfactory wage award....

Thirty-nine Protestant ministers, Jewish rabbis and other religious leaders from New York and Connecticut urged the New York State Board of Regents not to ban the showing of the film, *The Miracle*.... Farmers of New Jersey and Pennsylvania, meeting in the eastern division convention of the Farmers Union, called for "peace and parity, the two essentials for the family-sized farm".... More than 20,000 signatures of a petition urging freedom for Lt. Leon Gilbert were sent to President Truman by the Los Angeles Civil Rights Congress.

For the second time in recent months, Sen. Pat McCarran, author of the police state law which bears his name, tried to block contempt citations and prosecution for some of the nation's biggest operators of organized gambling and vice.... Editor & Publisher, organ of the newspaper industry, condemned the Newsdealer Association efforts to restrict Daily Worker sales, and reaffirmed the right of the paper to publish and circulate freely....

Joe McCarthy's Praise

Fifty Klan Kluxer gangsters used heavy sticks and a gun butt to beat Mrs. Evergreen Flowers, Negro mother, in her Whiteville, N.C. home. The New York Jewish Daily Forward had to run a retraction of one of its anti-Soviet stories, when the subject of the story, Mordecai Namir, head of the Israeli labor federation, Histadruth, cabled the statement that he had only "praise and gratitude" for the Soviet government's aid in his search for his aged mother....

The National Labor Conference for Peace voted support for the People's Peace Lobby in Washington, March 1.... Sen. Joseph F. McCarthy (R-Wisc) well-known tax-evader and witch-hunter, applauded the freeing of top Nazis as "extremely wise".... Thurgood Marshall, counsel for the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, in Japan investigating the courts martial of 39 Negroes enlisted men and officers, cabled home that there is no doubt but that there was Jimcrow bias in the cases....

The U. S. Immigration Service arrested 83 Chinese residents in three Brooklyn raids.... Legislative aides of Gov. Herman Talmadge of Georgia introduced a bill which would end public schooling and turn the schools over to private enterprises if courts should rule that Negro students must be admitted to classrooms hitherto restricted to whites only.

Dodge Workers Rap Methods Of Wage-Price Freeze Board

DETROIT.—Dodge Local 3 of the CIO Auto Workers Union at a recent membership meeting adopted a resolution against the way the wage-price freeze has been put into effect.

They demanded firing of the whole wage-price stabilization board. The local has a membership meeting of some 30,000 members and is the second largest local in the UAW-CIO.

The resolution was brought into meeting by the local FAW com-

The immediate response of the Dodge unionists was in sharp contrast to UAW president Walter Reuther and his International Executive Board who while in session this week here have so far made no protest of any kind but are reported "studying" the situation.

The Lt. Gilbert Case: Story of All Negroes In Armed Forces

By John Pittman

The story of Lt. Leon A. Gilbert, Jr., young Negro officer of York, Pa., is the story of Negroes in the U. S. armed forces today. Young Gilbert, framed and court-martialed by white senior officers of the 25th Infantry Division, of which his own 24th Infantry Regiment was a part, was sentenced to death. A mass campaign forced a rehearing on his case. And President Truman finally commuted the sentence to 20 years at hard labor.

But Lt. Gilbert courageously continues to assert his innocence, and to fight for full freedom. "Even with him (President Truman) whom I placed all my faith in, I have not found justice," he wrote the Civil Rights Congress, which entered a brief on his behalf and helped to mobilize the campaign to free him. "I must continue to appeal as all small men do when confronted with matters beyond their sphere to organizations or persons powerful enough at least to be heard, to help them find justice if such a thing exists for us."

For Lt. Gilbert, the fight goes on. He defies the lynch-verdict of the court martial, which was affirmed by the top brass and the President himself. Clearly, Lt. Gilbert's fight for his personal freedom coincides with the fight of all the people of the United States for the preservation of their liberties.

SO IT IS with all the other Negroes in the armed forces. Their fight for full equality is a fight for democracy, and as such, generates and joins democratic currents among all the people, currents that stem from the trade unions as well as from other sections of the people, currents which fight for peace as well as democratic rights.

That Lt. Gilbert's fight is not unusual is attested to by a recent announcement of Pentagon officials. These officials declared that they have up for review some 50 court martial cases involving Negro GIs, and "believe" there is one case involving a white GI.

This announcement coincided with the execution of the Martinsville Seven, bringing to 52 the number of Negroes executed on charges of "rape" by the State of Virginia since 1908, which in the same time has never executed a white man on the same charge. This announcement showed that the unequal, Jim Crow treatment of Negro civilians is carried over into the armed forces.

Fact of the matter is that Negroes have had to fight for the right to fight in the armies of the United States throughout the entire history of this country. But the fight for this right, and the fight for equality of treatment in the U. S. armed forces, has made greatest headway during the great just and democratic wars of the United States, when there existed among the people an upsurge for the extension of democracy.

Thus, during the wars of the American Revolution, against the slaveholders' bid for hemispheric domination, and against German fascism's attempt to conquer the world, the integration of Negroes in the armed forces attained high levels. Whereas, during the unjust, aggressive, imperialist wars were accompanied by mounting attacks on the Negro people at home; while, on the other hand, the Negro people made their greatest advances toward citizenship during the periods of the just, democratic wars of defense of the country.

These facts, drawn from the

history and experience of the Negro people as well as from present-day events, forecast the future of Negro soldiers in the current billionaires' war against the Asian people. It is probable that the top brass, conforming to the billionaires' over-all political strategy in relation to the Negro people, will make certain formal motions toward integration for tactical reasons. But they will continue the segregated discriminatory status of Negro troops as an essential element of their racist, imperialist war against the Asian peoples. Freedom for the Negro people, full democratic status for Negro soldiers, can only be won today through the struggle for peace.



LT. GILBERT

The War-Makers 'Honor' Negro History Week

By Benjamin J. Davis

The Wall Street monopolists and their faithful lackey, Pres. Truman, "honored" Negro History Week by committing the most barbarous crime against the Negro people in the modern history of the country—the mass murder of the seven innocent Martinsville youths.

This had just been preceded by the cold-blooded police lynching and robbery of the Negro veteran John Derrick, on the streets of Harlem.

The real honor to the Negro people during this month of annual observance of Negro History Week came, not from the war-mad government of the United States, but from the peace-loving governments and peoples of the Socialist Soviet Union, led by the great Stalin, and from the new People's Republic of China, led by Mao Tse-tung.

From the Soviet Union, China and the Peoples Democracies of Eastern Europe came cablegrams to America supporting the Negro people and their allies in the nation-wide demand to save the lives of the martyred Martinsville seven.

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THE WORKER honors Negro History Week by making its local week-end "Worker" edition the "New York-Harlem" edition in order to strengthen its long brilliant and unique leadership for Negro liberation.

It is not accidental that the first victims of the Truman-proclaimed "national emergency" are the railroad workers and the Negro people. For together they are the foundation of struggles of the American people for peace and democracy.

The young Martinsville Negroes are martyrs to the lunatic drive of Wall Street and Truman toward another world war and fascism.

They are victims of Wall Street's monstrous aggression against the people of Korea and China. They were murdered in an attempt to terrorize the Negro people—especially in the deep South—where they are fighting with heroic courage for freedom,

democracy and peace. But this attempt will fail.

The white ruling class and its poll tax governments in the South have lost their human instincts.



BENJAMIN J. DAVIS (above) served six years as Councilman of the City of New York and in that capacity was known as the tribune of the workers and the Negro people. As a member of the National Committee of the Communist Party, Davis led in formulating the Party's position on the Negro question following the rejection of Earl Browder's pro-capitalist policies.

A native Georgian, Davis attended school there and obtained a law degree from the Harvard Law School. It was while defending Angelo Herndon, the young Negro Communist charged in 1932 with "insurrection" for having organized the unemployed of Atlanta, that Davis became a member of the Communist Party.

In addition to his duties assigned to him as a National Committee member, Davis also serves as the chairman of the Harlem Region of the Communist Party.

He is one of the 11 Communist leaders who face 10 years in jail on the framed charge of "conspiracy."

Peace Is on Trial In Pittsburgh

By Art Shields

PITTSBURGH.—I almost imagined that I was watching the madhouse scene in Ibsen's "Peer Gynt" as I heard Judge Michael A. Musmanno, the state's star witness, screaming from the witness stand in the "sedition" trial.

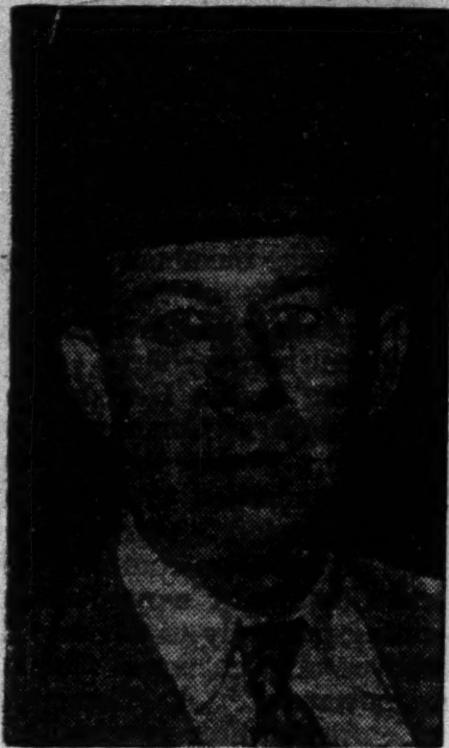
The screaming has gone on every day since the Judge took the stand as the prosecutor's chief "expert" on "Communism" and "socialism" and "war" and "peace."

One cannot tell how far this wild, disorderly behavior is calculated. But it fits into the fascist framework of this prosecution of Steve Nelson, the Spanish war hero, who is chairman of the Communist Party of Western Pennsylvania, and of Andy Onda, veteran Communist organizer in the steel and coal towns, and of James Dolsen, The Worker's correspondent.

All three were arrested last summer when they demanded the withdrawal of American troops. In so doing they were threatening the profits of the Mellons and the U. S. Steel magnates and the other big war industry lords who run Pittsburgh.

MUSMANNO is trying to make it impossible for defense counsel to object to the utterly illegal conduct of the prosecution.

The slightest objection is likely



STEVE NELSON

to set Musmanno screaming from the witness stand. This Judge of the Court of Common Pleas isn't presiding at this trial. He is testifying only as the prosecution's chief "expert," and as the amateur cop, who raided the Communist Party headquarters last summer. But he begins ranting at the defense attorneys whether he is asked a question or not.

He doesn't merely call defense attorney John T. McTernan a "liar," a "fabricator" and a "prevaricator" and a "week-end guest" from Los Angeles, who has no right to tell Musmanno what to do.

He screams these epithets, while his body shakes with rage. And he goes into another frenzy when the tall, dignified defense attorney asks the trial judge to please "keep" order in the court.

ANOTHER BURST of screams follows when McTernan pleads with the Trial judge to instruct the witness to speak only in answer to questions.

And Musmanno roars again that he doesn't need any lawyer from Los Angeles to tell him how to behave when McTernan remarks that "it is difficult to know who is running this court."

Trial Judge Henry X. O'Brien, who once compared Stalin to Hitler in remarks from the bench before this trial began, lets his brother Common Pleas judge have on for minutes on end.

Eventually, however, he has to restore order in the court. And the trial record once quotes him as telling Musmanno "Judge, be quiet."

MUSMANNO's "evidence" against the defendants is as irrational as his courtroom behavior.

This provocateur judge says the defendants are guilty of a "sedition" plot to "overthrow" the Government of the State of Pennsylvania because they sold books that—

- Called for peace in Korea;
- Denounced Marshall Tito of Yugoslavia;
- Praised Socialism in general;
- Praised Socialism in the Soviet Union in particular;
- Allegedly advocated "force and violence" against the government through some of these books.

Musmanno's No. 1 exhibit against Nelson, Onda and Dolsen is the famous working class classic, the Communist Manifesto, which Karl Marx and Frederick Engels wrote in 1847.

Then follow Lenin's works and various recent Communist Party documents with emphasis on the Communist's support of peace. He reads brief quotations out of context to the jury.

The Stockholm peace petition against the atomic bomb got Musmanno's special attention last week.

Peace is on trial in this fantastic court proceedings.



Seek More Drastic Communist Curbs

By Arthur Davis

PITTSBURGH.—The group organized here some years ago by present Superior Court Judge Blair F. Gunther under the title "Americans Battling Communism" (ABC) is sponsoring a bill to be introduced in the state legislature for curbing "subversive" activities.

Entitled "Subversive Activities Act of 1951," the measure would outlaw "agents and agencies of the international Communist organization" and make members of "Communist action" or "Communist Front" organizations ineligible for employment by the state.

According to the Hearst-owned Sun-Telegraph, a Communist "action" group is described as one which is controlled or dominated "by the foreign government or foreign organization controlling the World Communist movement and operating primarily to advance the objectives of such world Communist movement." A "Communist front" organization is one "controlled by an 'action group,' Communist foreign government or the Communist movement."

The measure would deny any professional or organizational charter or license to any individual or group "affiliated with Communism." It would bar from candidacy for public office or "for office in any organization in the state" any member of the "international Communist organization, Communist 'action' or Communist 'front' groups."

THE PARALLEL BETWEEN

this proposal and the infamous McCarran Law is further obvious from the power it would give the state attorney general to dictate what is "American" and what citizens of Pennsylvania may think. This official, who it should be remembered is appointed by the governor, "shall cause to be investigated all persons, corporations, associations, groups or organizations otherwise herein defined for the purpose of determining whether the same are within the scope of this Act, and his determination shall be presumed to be conclusive for all public purposes."

Penalty for violation of any provision of the act would be imprisonment for 10 to 20 years plus a fine of at least \$10,000, together with the loss of all state license, charters or other privileges.

Everything about this proposed law smells of its sponsors, who have long been active in rallying the anti-democratic, pro-fascist forces in this area.

SOME SHIFTING ABOUT of officers took place at the meeting last week of this secret conspir-

3 Children Die

(Continued from Page 1)
advocated evicting the tenants even if it meant separating families.

It then switched its line and tried to discredit public housing by playing up the existence of so-called "chiselers" in the few projects that exist here.

Police and city officials are trying to shift the blame of the Jackson tragedy by spreading rumors as to the whereabouts of Mrs. Jackson during the fire. They even brought Mrs. Jackson and another roomer in the burned building to headquarters on the basis of so-called arguments that were alleged to have occurred between them.

CONFERENCES HAVE been held with the Mayor by a number of groups, including the Colored Voters Club, which sought action on the housing problem which has been aggravated by Bethlehem Steel's war-induced expansion.

The best he could do was promise that at some future date, a

acy against American democracy and civil rights. Perhaps because of his higher court position, Judge Gunther resigned the presidency which was taken over by his apt pupil, Attorney Harry Alan Sherman.

Sherman has been involved in skulduggery deals against the progressive labor movement and for company-union outfits for years. He acts as legal counsel for the labor spy Matt Cvetic.

The new vice chairman and treasurer are John Ladesic and Paul Kazimer. Ladesic is a former vice president of the Croatian Fraternal Union, who was kicked out of the job in the housecleaning at the last national convention. He is a notorious reactionary. Kazimer is a national officer of the Slovak League of America and is equally reactionary.

THE EXECUTIVE committee of the ABC consists of Stanley Bakanas, a Lithuanian reactionary; Theodore L. Moritz, an ex-Congressman and follower of the fascist Catholic priest Father Coughlin; Hugh McKenna; Common Pleas Judge Harry Montgomery, a Democrat, and Superior Court Judge Blair F. Gunther, Republi-

cian. Curiously enough, the most spectacular and perhaps unprincipled of all the red baiting politicians—Judge Michael A. Musmanno—does not appear among the leaders of the ABC.

The lesser lights of the organization—Ladesic, Kazimer, McKenna, Bakanas, Moritz, and the executive secretary, Mrs. Julie Coax— are all payrollers in the county apparatus, which is dominated by Chairman John Kans of the Board of County Commissioners. Kane is the No. 2 Democrat—next to boss David Lawrence.

THIS MISCALLED "Americans Battling Communism" and these reactionaries who comprise its open leadership, spearhead the forces attempting to break down democratic rights in this great industrial area. They are back of the prosecution of the Communist leaders here, the conviction of Nate Albert, the dismissal of his sister, Dorothy Albert, from her high school job, the denial to the Progressive Party and other citizen groups of the right to meet in public school auditoriums, etc.

housing project, which is just being begun—would admit Negroes.

The Communist Party called for action on the housing crisis more than a month ago in its shop paper, *Bethlehem Steelworker*. It raised the issue shortly after a number of homes occupied by Negroes were seriously damaged by a hurricane in November.

Communists urge the people of Bethlehem, led by the steelworkers to rally around a program including these points:

- End discrimination in all public projects.
- Increase public housing projects to be financed by increased taxes on the giant Bethlehem Steel Co.

Steelworkers Out

WEST LEECHBURG, Pa.—The local union of the CIO United Steelworkers closed down the Allegheny-Ludlum Steel Corp. plant Jan. 3, in protest against hiring a journeyman electrician instead of promoting an apprentice from the union list. About 2,400 workers were involved.

Fight Fare Boost

PITTSBURGH.—Petitions are being circulated by the Progressive Party against further increases in local streetcar and bus fares.

One Progressive and his wife collected 700 signatures at the entrance to a movie theater in the Hill district. He got dozens of signatures in a crowded streetcar. Two other Progressives got nearly 400 signatures in another part of that district in a few hours work.

A goal of 100,000 names has been set.

Alexander Wright, Western Pennsylvania organizer says citizens are waking up to what is going on. "People aren't taking it lying down any more. They intend to have their say," he reports.

A news dispatch from L. R. Lindgren, Pittsburgh Press staff writer at Harrisburg, states that "sources close to the Public Utility Commission said that in all probability the rate-fixing agency will not block the increase, which in that event would go into effect automatically on Feb. 18, a month after the Pittsburgh Railways Co. asked for it."

The PUC has authority to hold up the increase for a total of nine more months to provide for public hearings, etc. The record of the body to date is that of subservience to the private utility interests and there is nothing to indicate that anything but the strongest public pressure will hold back what would be the fourth increase in fares since 1946.

Petitions may be obtained from the Progressive Party, 120-9th St., Pittsburgh 22, or by telephone EX 1-0332.

Deny Bail in Albert Appeal

PITTSBURGH.—The State Supreme Court has refused a stay of sentence to Nate Albert pending his appeal from a sentence of 23 months in the workhouse and \$500 fine by Judge Harry Montgomery. He was convicted last December for "inciting to riot" in connection with attempts by Negroes to use the city-owned Highland Park swimming pool.

The effect of the decision is to keep Albert in the workhouse, in the fitting words of the Pittsburgh Press, until the court "gets around" to hearing his appeal, "perhaps in several months."

The Pittsburgh Courier exposed the frameup in an editorial in its issue of Jan. 6. "Albert was tried for inciting to riot in Highland Park, whereas all the real criminals when tried were freed (referring to release of Negro-hating gangsters responsible for the trouble). Albert was found guilty, sentenced to twenty-three months in the workhouse, fined \$500 and subjected to a severe tongue-lashing by Judge Harry Montgomery."

"Whether Communist or not, Albert was on the side of the law in Highland Park. If he was advocating anything, he was advocating the right of Negroes to use a taxpayers' swimming pool. To Judge Montgomery, Albert's Communist associates loomed much larger than the actual denial of a basic right to one group of citizens by another prejudiced group. If Albert had interested himself in protecting a basic right of white people, we doubt that his communism would have been allowed to obscure the basic right involved."

The Pittsburgh Civil Rights Congress is continuing to secure Albert the right of being admitted to bail pending a decision on his appeal, the customary procedure in such cases.

Pittsburgh Labor News

Cabbies Strike

The Owl Cab Co. of Pittsburgh was tied up by a strike of its 86 employees. They are represented by Local 262 of the CIO Transport Workers Union.

The workers are demanding health and accident insurance to cover injuries while at work, the company to provide bonds for drivers arrested while working, and certain pay adjustments. The latter include a raise in the scale paid telephone operators from the present \$29.50 to \$32.50 a week to \$32.50 to \$40 for a 40 hour week. The union wants wages of mechanics increased 25 cents an hour.

Union members are particularly incensed at the company's effort to require a 250-day probationary period during which a driver gets 40 percent commission and after which he is entitled to an additional 5 percent in comparison to the 30-day period in the old contract which expired Dec. 31.

Indignation is hot over the poor sanitary accommodations furnished workers. The Pittsburgh Courier quotes an Owl driver: "It's a damn shame! There's only one washroom for both men and women employees. The seat is broken off the commode and there's not even soap and towels for the operators."

The workers had rejected company offers of a 15-cent an hour boost plus a pension plan equivalent to about five cents an hour more.

Edward Tomlin, vice president; Charles F. Spearman, Edward Harris, Kenneth Sherman, Reuben Scott, together with Dominick Spasbo, international representative.

The company's charter restricts its operations to the Third and Fifth wards, where the bulk of the city's Negro population is confined. The big Yellow Cab Co., which controls the overwhelming proportion of cab service throughout the city, is responsible for this Jimcrow division. It continually harasses Owl drivers in the attempt prevent any encroachment on its monopoly position.

Brewery Men Back

The strike of some 900 brewery workers of Local 22 of the CIO union who had been joined by about 1,100 bottlers and drivers in Locals 144 and 67 for a reported 30-cent an hour wage hike, ended with their return to work on assurance of their international officers that they would negotiate for a new contract affording the "largest possible wage increase allowable under the new Federal wage controls."

The workers had rejected company offers of a 15-cent an hour boost plus a pension plan equivalent to about five cents an hour more.

Tieup Hits Penna. Yards

By James H. Dolsen

PITTSBURGH.—The "mass sickness" among railroad workers spread to this area last week. Embargoes were declared on all but perishable and emergency freight as scores of workers reported laying off because of illness. Passenger train operations were curtailed. Postmaster James C. Smith announced embargoes on all first class mail over eight ounces, all third and fourth class mail, and all second class except newspapers.

However, the delegates had already fully informed the congressmen of the two years of "roundabout" handed them by the Truman Administration and the interminable "investigations" conducted by its various mediation boards and other means of sabotaging demands of the workers. So Eberhardt's and Denny's "sympathy" has not been of much assistance to the workers.

Inistent demands by Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen members from the Conemaugh branch of that union for immediate strike action at a meeting here Jan. 30 of 200 railroad workers, including some engineers, firemen and conductors, had resulted in a stormy meeting, featured by a fist fight and sudden adjournment by the chairman after declaring a strike motion defeated.

IN ORDER TO AVERT strike action union officers urged a motorcade to Washington for personal visits to Western Pennsylvania congressmen. This was carried.

The following night a caravan of 35 cars left this city, joined by ten more at Midway on the Pennsylvania Turnpike, carrying 200 railroad workers, mostly members of the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen, G. J. Sludden of Pittsburgh, who is state legislative chairman for the union, headed the delegation, together with W. J. McCafferty of McKees Rocks, chairman of the Western Pennsylvania Association of BRT locals.

In Washington the delegation interviewed Sen. James H. Duff and six of the more progressive Congressmen. According to Fred W. Perkins, Washington correspondent of the Pittsburgh Press, Rep. Herman P. Eberhardt, Pittsburgh Democrat, and Harmer D. Denny, Pittsburgh Republican, declared they had been "impressed by the sincerity of these visitors and believed their complaints should be fully investigated."

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Illinois Ups Sub Goals; Call Sunday Mobilization

"SUNDAY IS SUB DAY!" That slogan was sounded throughout Chicago in a rallying call to all sub-getters to report for weekend mobilization.

This Sunday and next will be high points in the drive to reach

the 2,000-sub Illinois quota and to surpass it by 50 percent.

The new goals were set here this week after the sub campaign moved into high gear, with every section of the city calling weekend mobilizations for canvassing.



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NEGRO HISTORY WEEK

The Meaning of Martinsville

By Claude Lightfoot

WHAT is the meaning of Martinsville?

For the answer to that question, this paper went this week to Claude Lightfoot, one of this city's keenest observers of Negro History—and one of its makers.

Lightfoot, 41, is the executive secretary of the Illinois Communist Party and a member of the party's national committee.

"There is no decent American who can fail to be shocked by the legalized mass murder of these seven Negroes in Virginia," he said, "but to fully understand it is something else again."

Lightfoot made it clear that the Martinsville outrage was no isolated incident. "It is part of a grim chapter of Negro History which also contains within it the case of Lieut. Gilbert in Korea, the story of Willie McGee in Mississippi and the growing impoverishment and terror which are the lot of the Negro people throughout the length and breadth of this land."

He told of the heroic efforts in which the Communists played a major role, in trying to save the "Martinsville Seven."

"They pulled the switch in defiance of national and worldwide protests," he said, "and incidentally, they helped destroy many of the lingering illusions about this administration in Washington and

Claude Lightfoot is the author of a new pamphlet entitled "An American Looks at Russia." It is available at the Modern Book Store, 180 W. Washington, Chicago at five cents a copy.

the kind of war program on which it has embarked."

Lightfoot spoke warmly of the excellent Negro History Week observance which has been developed here and throughout the nation. He praised the broad popularization of the role of Negro in American history and in every major field of endeavor.

"Negro History Week must be the occasion when we examine not only our gains but our losses as well," he said, "We must look for the reasons why we were able to make advances, such as FEPC, during World War II and why our welfare and our very existence is threatened by those who are planning World War III."

Lightfoot explained that "the very nature of the war drive today makes the attack on the Negro people inevitable," and cited these reasons:

1. The administration has launched a white supremacist, imperialist war of conquest against colored peoples which has naturally unleashed a program of brutal chauvinism here at home.

2. U. S. foreign policy is directed against destroying the liberation struggle of the colonial people with whom the fate of the Negro people here is so closely intertwined.

3. The cost of the war drive, fully directed by Big Business, is being loaded on the shoulders of the working people, which includes the largest mass of the Negro people.

4. The U. S. today has assumed the brutal, aggressive "Hitler role" in world affairs today, singling out minorities in this country for persecution in the same way that Hitler persecuted the Jews of Germany.

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"IT IS no accident," he pointed out, "that seven Negroes were killed in Martinsville during the same week when the U. S. par-

UNIONS CALL STOPPAGES TO PROTEST PAY FREEZE

-See Back Page-

Robeson to be Here Feb. 24-5 For Concert and Mass Rally



PAUL ROBESON

CHICAGO.—Paul Robeson, world-famed Negro singer, will be in Chicago Feb. 24 and 25 to participate in a mass rally and concert arranged by the South Side Negro Labor Council.

Robeson will be featured speaker at a city-wide shop stewards rally, Sunday, Feb. 25, at Packinghouse Labor Center, 49th and Wabash. The stewards rally, beginning at 10 a.m., will hit at major problems facing Negro trade unionists, including housing, FEPC, and employment of Negro women.

Along with Robeson, Charles Proctor, Packinghouse Local 28, and Harold Ward, farm equipment local 108, will speak.

Sam Parks, South Side Negro Labor Council director, said that all unions have been urged to notify their stewards to attend the rally.

Robeson will appear Saturday, Feb. 25 at the Metropolitan Community Church, 41st and South Park, to present a full evening concert. Tickets are priced at \$1.80, \$1.20, and 60¢. The concert will begin at 8 p.m.

Call March 1st Peace Pilgrimage To Washington

— See Page 3 —



CLAUDE LIGHTFOOT

(Continued on Page 8)

Negro Youth Dies in Cops' Custody--ACLU

CHICAGO.—The American Civil Liberties Union declared this week that its investigation confirmed the fact that Andrew Johnson, a 19-year-old Negro youth, was killed while in Chicago police custody. The ACLU statement, based on private autopsies which it sponsored, revealed that Johnson had died of a lacerated liver while he was being "questioned" by police at the Central Station on January 14.

The autopsies, conducted by medical departments of four universities here, belied the statement by police surgeon Dr. Clarence Mansfield, who said Johnson died of a heart attack.

ACLU Chicago Director Edward H. Meyerding said: "We have proof that Johnson died of an injury inflicted during the time of his detention."

He said that the ACLU probe included the questioning of pri-

soners who were in jail along with Johnson. Relatives and friends of the husky young worker have stated that he was perfectly healthy at the time of his arrest.

The inquest in the case was being continued this week at the County Morgue.

Three Negro Unionists Win \$225 Court Award from Jimcrow Tavern Operator

CHICAGO.—Three Negro trade unions leaders this week won a \$225 award from a tavern keeper who refused to serve them.

Hilliard Ellis, Edward Johnson and James Smith, leaders of UAW-CIO Local 453, were given the award by an all-white jury who found the operators of the Barclay Cocktail Lounge, 102 E. Cermak, guilty of violating the Illinois civil rights act.

Attorney Irving Meyers represented the unionists before Circuit Judge E. A. Roeth.

BEN PHILLIPS' STRENGTH MOUNTS

Negro Candidate for Council Hits Jimcrow in E. St. Louis

E. ST. LOUIS, Ill.—A crusade to elect the first Negro to the four-man town commission grew in strength here as the candidacy of Ben Phillips won support from Negro and white voters who have for many years been saddled with corrupt machine politicians.

The non-partisan primary on Tuesday, Feb. 13, will whittle the field of 20 candidates down to eight. Of the 20, Phillips is the only Negro candidate in this town in which more than one-third of the voting strength is held by the Negro people.

Phillips' campaign was a continuation of the fight for civil rights which he has led here. As chairman of the local chapter of the Civil Rights Congress, the young Negro leader has led a vigorous battle against Jimcrow in the hospitals, theatres, restaurants and other public centers here.

A FORMER packinghouse

worker, Phillips is now a railroad worker and secretary of the AFL Brotherhood of Firemen & Oilers Local No. 451.

From his campaign headquarters in the center of the town here, Phillips has carried on a hard-hitting campaign on some of the burning local issues that no other candidate will dare to touch.

He has been directing his main fire at the two major party machines who have run the town into debt and failed to provide the people with the most elementary city services. Aggravating the scandalous housing shortage here is the lack of fire protection, especially

in the Negro communities, where there are large areas without fire-plugs.

Phillips has been on the radio repeatedly during the campaign stressing the shocking Jimcrow restrictions in the community and the high cost of discrimination to the entire population.

CHICAGO.—When Chicagoans celebrate the 79th birthday of Sam Hammersmark on Saturday evening, Feb. 17, they will be paying tribute to a man who has helped make some of the best phases of recent American history.

Hammersmark, beloved Chicago veteran of the labor movement, will be feted at a gala affair at the UE Ballroom, 37 S. Ashland.

His colorful and active personal history covers such chapters as his career as a traveling organizer in the steel, rubber, packinghouse and other industries. He was a co-worker with such outstanding figures as William Z. Foster, Clarence Darrow, Tom Mooney.

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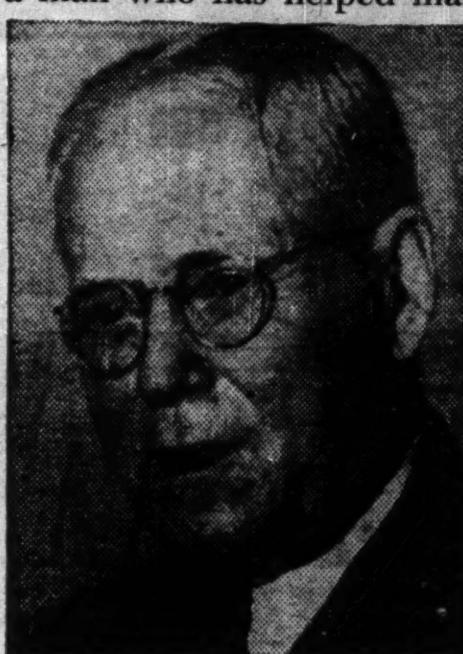
MUCH of Hammersmark's life centered around books. As a publisher, he was responsible for enriching American literature with working-class writings. In recent years, he has operated the Modern Book Store at 180 W. Washington St., the city's outstanding center of labor and Marxist literature. Here Sam Hammersmark is more than a bookseller but also a mentor to hundreds who come to seek his judgment and to be informed out of his vast store of cultural and political knowledge.

Hammersmark numbers among his friends such literary figures as Carl Sandburg, Jack Conroy, Langston Hughes, Howard Fast, Gwendolyn Brooks, and Meridel Le Sueur.

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HE PIONEERED in labor political action and in building the American Federation of Labor in an earlier day.

"Many of these old timers with whom I worked have 'gone to their reward,' as the saying goes," Hammersmark declared, "and others have succumbed to various corrupting earthly rewards."



SAM HAMMERSMARK

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Foster Birthday Ball

SATURDAY NITE, MARCH 3

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CELEBRATE THE SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF THE WORKER DRIVE!

Music — Entertainment — Refreshments — Dancing

Prizes for the best Sub-Getters

ADMISSION: \$1.25, tax included

Admission FREE to those who have secured 3 subs in this drive

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Editor: CARL HIRSCH

Negro Youth Dies in Cops' Custody--ACLU

CHICAGO.—The American Civil Liberties Union declared this week that its investigation confirmed the fact that Andrew Johnson, a 19-year-old Negro youth, was killed while in Chicago police custody. The ACLU statement, based on private autopsies which it sponsored, revealed that Johnson had died of a lacerated liver while he was being "questioned" by police at the Central Station on January 14.

The autopsies, conducted by medical departments of four universities here, belied the statement by police surgeon Dr. Clarence Mansfield, who said Johnson died of a heart attack.

ACLU Chicago Director Edward H. Meyerding said: "We have proof that Johnson died of an injury inflicted during the time of his detention."

He said that the ACLU probe included the questioning of pri-

soners who were in jail along with Johnson. Relatives and friends of the husky young worker have stated that he was perfectly healthy at

the time of his arrest. The inquest in the case was being continued this week at the County Morgue.

Three Negro Unionists Win \$225 Court Award from Jimcrow Tavern Operator

CHICAGO.—Three Negro trade unions leaders this week won a \$225 award from a tavern keeper who refused to serve them.

Hilliard Ellis, Edward Johnson and James Smith, leaders of UAW-CIO Local 453, were given the award by an all-white jury who found the operators of the Barclay Cocktail Lounge, 102 E. Cermak, guilty of violating the Illinois civil rights act.

Attorney Irving Meyers represented the unionists before Circuit Judge E. A. Roeth.

BEN PHILLIPS' STRENGTH MOUNTS

Negro Candidate for Council Hits Jimcrow in E. St. Louis

E. ST. LOUIS, Ill.—A crusade to elect the first Negro to the four-man town commission grew in strength here as the candidacy of Ben Phillips won support from Negro and white voters who have for many years been saddled with corrupt machine politicians.

The non-partisan primary on Tuesday, Feb. 13, will whittle the field of 20 candidates down to eight. Of the 20, Phillips is the only Negro candidate in this town in which more than one-third of the voting strength is held by the Negro people.

Phillips' campaign was a continuation of the fight for civil rights which he has led here. As chairman of the local chapter of the Civil Rights Congress, the young Negro leader has led a vigorous battle against Jimcrow in the hospitals, theatres, restaurants and other public centers here.

A FORMER packinghouse

worker, Phillips is now a railroad worker and secretary of the AFL Brotherhood of Firemen & Oilers Local No. 451.

From his campaign headquarters in the center of the town here, Phillips has carried on a hard-hitting campaign on some of the burning local issues that no other candidate will dare to touch.

He has been directing his main fire at the two major party machines who have run the town into debt and failed to provide the people with the most elementary city services. Aggravating the scandalous housing shortage here is the lack of fire protection, especially

in the Negro communities, where there are large areas without fire-plugs.

Phillips has been on the radio repeatedly during the campaign stressing the shocking Jimcrow restrictions in the community and the high cost of discrimination to the entire population.

CHICAGO.—When Chicagoans celebrate the 79th birthday of Sam Hammersmark on Saturday evening, Feb. 17, they will be paying tribute to a man who has helped make some of the best phases of recent American history.

Hammersmark, beloved Chicago veteran of the labor movement, will be feted at a gala affair at the UE Ballroom, 37 S. Ashland.

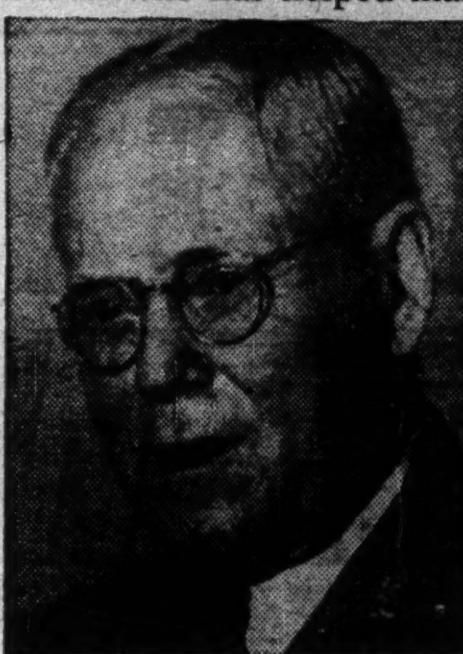
His colorful and active personal history covers such chapters as his career as a traveling organizer in the steel, rubber, packinghouse and other industries. He was a co-worker with such outstanding figures as William Z. Foster, Clarence Darrow, Tom Mooney.

MUCH of Hammersmark's life centered around books. As a publisher, he was responsible for enriching American literature with working-class writings. In recent years, he has operated the Modern Book Store at 180 W. Washington St., the city's outstanding center of labor and Marxist literature. Here Sam Hammersmark is more than a bookseller but also a mentor to hundreds who come to seek his judgment and to be informed out of his vast store of cultural and political knowledge.

Hammersmark numbers among his friends such literary figures as Carl Sandburg, Jack Conroy, Langston Hughes, Howard Fast, Gwendolyn Brooks, and Meridel Le Sueur.

HE PIONEERED in labor political action and in building the American Federation of Labor in an earlier day.

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Editor: CARL BURSCHE

The Lt. Gilbert Case: Story of All Negroes In Armed Forces

By John Pittman

The story of Lt. Leon A. Gilbert, Jr., young Negro officer of York, Pa., is the story of Negroes in the U. S. armed forces today. Young Gilbert, framed and court-martialed by white senior officers of the 25th Infantry Division, of which his own 24th Infantry Regiment was a part, was sentenced to death. A mass campaign forced a rehearing on his case. And President Truman finally commuted the sentence to 20 years at hard labor.

But Lt. Gilbert courageously continues to assert his innocence, and to fight for full freedom. "Even with him (President Truman) whom I placed all my faith in, I have not found justice," he wrote the Civil Rights Congress, which entered a brief on his behalf and helped to mobilize the campaign to free him. "I must continue to appeal as all small men do when confronted with matters beyond their sphere to organizations or persons powerful enough at least to be heard, to help them find justice if such a thing exists for us."

For Lt. Gilbert, the fight goes on. He defies the lynch-verdict of the court martial, which was affirmed by the top brass and the President himself. Clearly, Lt. Gilbert's fight for his personal freedom coincides with the fight of all the people of the United States for the preservation of their liberties.

SO IT IS with all the other Negroes in the armed forces. Their fight for full equality is a fight for democracy, and as such, generates and joins democratic currents among all the people, currents that stem from the trade unions as well as from other sections of the people, currents which fight for peace as well as democratic rights.

That Lt. Gilbert's fight is not unusual is attested to by a recent announcement of Pentagon officials. These officials declared that they have up for review some 50 court martial cases involving Negro GIs, and "believe" there is one case involving a white GI.

This announcement coincided with the execution of the Martinsville Seven, bringing to 52 the number of Negroes executed on charges of "rape" by the State of Virginia since 1908, which in the same time has never executed a white man on the same charge. This announcement showed that the unequal, Jim Crow treatment of Negro civilians is carried over into the armed forces.

Fact of the matter is that Negroes have had to fight for the right to fight in the armies of the United States throughout the entire history of this country. But the fight for this right, and the fight for equality of treatment in the U. S. armed forces, has made greatest headway during the great just and democratic wars of the United States, when there existed among the people an upsurge for the extension of democracy.

Thus, during the wars of the American Revolution, against the slaveholders' bid for hemispheric domination, and against German fascism's attempt to conquer the world, the integration of Negroes in the armed forces attained high levels. Whereas, during the unjust, aggressive, imperialist wars were accompanied by mounting attacks on the Negro people at home; while, on the other hand, the Negro people made their greatest advances toward citizenship during the periods of the just, democratic wars of defense of the country.

These facts, drawn from the

history and experience of the Negro people as well as from present-day events, forecast the future of Negro soldiers in the current billionaires' war against the Asian people. It is probable that the top brass, conforming to the billionaires' over-all political strategy in relation to the Negro people, will make certain formal motions toward integration for tactical reasons. But they will continue the segregated discriminatory status of Negro troops as an essential element of their racist, imperialist war against the Asian peoples. Freedom for the Negro people, full democratic status for Negro soldiers, can only be won today through the struggle for peace.



L.T. GILBERT

The War-Makers 'Honor' Negro History Week

By Benjamin J. Davis

The Wall Street monopolists and their faithful lackey, Pres. Truman, "honored" Negro History Week by committing the most barbarous crime against the Negro people in the modern history of the country—the mass murder of the seven innocent Martinsville youths.

This had just been preceded by the cold-blooded police lynching and robbery of the Negro veteran John Derrick, on the streets of Harlem.

The real honor to the Negro people during this month of annual observance of Negro History Week, not from the war-mad government of the United States, but from the peace-loving governments and peoples of the Socialist Soviet Union, led by the great Stalin, and from the new People's Republic of China, led by Mao Tse-tung.

From the Soviet Union, China and the Peoples Democracies of Eastern Europe came cablegrams to America supporting the Negro people and their allies in the nation-wide demand to save the lives of the martyred Martinsville seven.

*

THE WORKER honors Negro History Week by making its local week-end "Worker" edition the "New York-Harlem" edition in order to strengthen its long brilliant and unique leadership for Negro liberation.

It is not accidental that the first victims of the Truman-proclaimed "national emergency" are the railroad workers and the Negro people. For together they are the foundation of struggles of the American people for peace and democracy.

The young Martinsville Negroes are martyrs to the lunatic drive of Wall Street and Truman toward another world war and fascism.

They are victims of Wall Street's monstrous aggression against the people of Korea and China. They were murdered in an attempt to terrorize the Negro people—especially in the deep South—where they are fighting with heroic courage for freedom,

democracy and peace. But this attempt will fail.

The white ruling class and its poll tax governments in the South have lost their human instincts.



BENJAMIN J. DAVIS (above) served six years as Councilman of the City of New York and in that capacity was known as the tribune of the workers and the Negro people. As a member of the National Committee of the Communist Party, Davis led in formulating the Party's position on the Negro question following the rejection of Earl Browder's pro-capitalist policies.

A native Georgian, Davis attended school there and obtained a law degree from the Harvard Law School. It was while defending Angelo Herndon, the young Negro Communist charged in 1932 with "insurrection" for having organized the unemployed of Atlanta, that Davis became a member of the Communist Party.

In addition to his duties assigned to him as a National Committee member, Davis also serves as the chairman of the Harlem Region of the Communist Party.

He is one of the 11 Communist leaders who face 10 years in jail on the framed charge of "conspiracy."

Peace Is on Trial In Pittsburgh

By Art Shields

PITTSBURGH.—I almost imagined that I was watching the madhouse scene in Ibsen's "Peer Gynt" as I heard Judge Michael A. Musmanno, the state's star witness, screaming from the witness stand in the "sedition" trial.

The screaming has gone on every day since the Judge took the stand as the prosecutor's chief "expert" on "Communism" and "socialism" and "war" and "peace."

One cannot tell how far this wild, disorderly behavior is calculated. But it fits into the fascist framework of this prosecution of Steve Nelson, the Spanish war hero, who is chairman of the Communist Party of Western Pennsylvania, and of Andy Onda, veteran Communist organizer in the steel and coal towns, and of James Dolsen, The Worker's correspondent.

All three were arrested last summer when they demanded the withdrawal of American troops. In so doing they were threatening the profits of the Mellons and the U. S. Steel magnates and the other big war industry lords who run Pittsburgh.

MUSMANNO is trying to make it impossible for defense counsel to object to the utterly illegal conduct of the prosecution.

The slightest objection is likely



STEVE NELSON

to set Musmanno screaming from the witness stand. This Judge of the Court of Common Pleas isn't presiding at this trial. He is testifying only as the prosecution's chief "expert," and as the amateur cop, who raided the Communist Party headquarters last summer. But he begins ranting at the defense attorneys whether he is asked a question or not.

He doesn't merely call defense attorney John T. McTernan a "liar," a "fabricator" and a "prevaricator" and a "week-end guest" from Los Angeles, who has no right to tell Musmanno what to do.

He screams these epithets, while his body shakes with rage. And he goes into another frenzy when the tall, dignified defense attorney asks the trial judge to please "keep" order in the court.

ANOTHER BURST of screams follows when McTernan pleads with the Trial judge to instruct the witness to speak only in answer to questions.

And Musmanno roars again that he doesn't need any lawyer from Los Angeles to tell him how to behave when McTernan remarks that "it is difficult to know who is running this court."

Trial Judge Henry X. O'Brien, who once compared Stalin to Hitler in remarks from the bench before this trial began, lets his brother Common Pleas judge rave on for minutes on end.

Eventually, however, he has to restore order in the court. And the trial record once quotes him as telling Musmanno "Judge, be quiet."

MUSMANNO's "evidence" against the defendants is as irrational as his courtroom behavior.

This provocateur judge says the defendants are guilty of a "seditious" plot to "overthrow" the Government of the State of Pennsylvania because they sold books that—

- Called for peace in Korea;
- Denounced Marshall Tito of Yugoslavia;
- Praised Socialism in general;
- Praised Socialism in the Soviet Union in particular;
- Allegedly advocated "force and violence" against the government through some of these books.

Musmanno's No. 1 exhibit against Nelson, Onda and Dolsen is the famous working class classic, the Communist Manifesto, which Karl Marx and Frederick Engels wrote in 1847.

Then follow Lenin's works and various recent Communist Party documents with emphasis on the Communist's support of peace. He reads brief quotations out of context to the jury.

The Stockholm peace petition against the atomic bomb got Musmanno's special attention last week.

Peace is on trial in this fantastic court proceedings.



NEGRO HISTORY WEEK

Plan Awards at Feb. 18 Rally

CHICAGO.—High-spot of the Negro History Week activities here will be a large public meeting, Sunday, Feb. 18, at the Metropolitan Community Church, 41 St. and South Park, 3 p.m.

Honors will be awarded several Chicagoans who have contributed toward inter-racial unity and full citizenship for the Negro people.

"Besides the meetings," Mrs. Margaret Goss Burroughs, Chairman of the Negro History Week Committee, declared, "Mothers have been visiting aldermen to demand that a monument to Frederick Douglass or some other Negro hero, be put up by the city or state in a public park."

Mrs. Burroughs pointed out that members of the committee have been invited to speak on radio station WMAQ, Saturday morning, Feb. 17 on the Elizabeth Hart show.

The DuSable History Club will

present Mr. Rayford Logan, Sunday, Feb. 11 at Quin Chapel in a Carter Woodson memorial service.

Mrs. Burroughs revealed that for the first time in Chicago Negro History Week greeting cards, specially designed by a leading artist, will be available to all at 3 cents each.

"The cards have a sketch of Fredrick Douglass on the front," Mrs. Goss said, "and we feel that they mark an important step forward. Sending greeting cards during Negro History Week will help to give the period a festive air—just as other nations have their holidays and celebrations, we will now have ours."

Stoppages Here Hit Pay Freeze Order

CHICAGO.—A wave of stoppages protesting the government's wage freeze edict developed here this week, set off by the huge demonstration in the packinghouses last Wednesday. The district-wide action of the CIO United Packinghouse Workers was followed up

**Gil
GREEN**

All We Need Is More People
Getting More Subs to Put
This Drive Over the Top!



GREEN

IN ADDITION to the prizes being given by The Worker to the best sub-getters, the Communist Party of Illinois is giving a most coveted prize to the four best Party sections in the sub drive. These four sections will have the honor of selecting one of their members to go as part of delegation to New York City to greet William Z. Foster in person on his 7th birthday. Which four sections will have that honor?

At present the four sections that are leading are Hyde Park, and Cacchione 28th Ward, in the community field, and Gary and Parsons in the industrial field. However, before the drive is over there may be more than one upset. Craft for example feels that it ought to have the honor of sending a delegate to New York, especially a railroad worker, for Comrade Foster played no small part in helping to organize the railroad workers.

Of course, Comrade Foster also led the first movements for trade union organization in steel and in packing, and we wonder whether South Chicago and Packing are going to get in the running? At present both of these sections are way down in this drive.

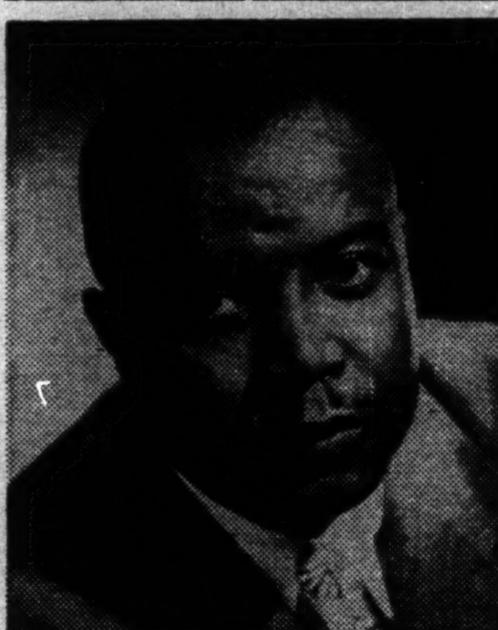
The South Side also promises to shoot forward in the next week. If it continues to move forward at increased tempo, it can even oust Hyde Park from first place, for Hyde Park seems to be resting on its laurels.

We are still to hear from the youth who last year did a bang up job in about ten days time. We understand something is brewing among the young people and next week ought to tell the tale.

THE VERY spirited functionaries' meeting that took place last Friday went on record for completing the state goal by Feb. 12, Lincoln's Birthday, and then from that day to Feb. 25 to go over the goal by a minimum of 50 percent. Thus the week-end of Feb. 10-11 should see a maximum of mobilization and activity in the drive.

Everywhere the reports indicate a magnificent response. The only reason that we have not already topped out goal is that too few people have gone out to get subs and too many have been putting this job off from week to week due to one reason or another. This is certainly the case in Packing.

Let's stop stalling and putting off the job of getting renewals and new readers. Let's have every section and club of the Party concentrate on this task until it is completed!



SAM PARKS
Delegation to Sen. Douglas

can be saved—but only if we fight for it now.

MANY UNIONISTS here carried on an untiring 11th hour campaign last week-end to save the lives of the Martinsville frame-up victims.

On Sunday, a group of some 250 unionists reached Illinois Senator Paul Douglas at a South Side Democratic rally and demanded that he call Washington to ask for a stay of execution.

Douglas callously resisted any suggestion that he call President Truman, declaring that the President was "too busy to be bothered."

The delegation was headed by Sam Parks, district secretary-treasurer of the UPWA, Frank Mingo, of FE-UE Local 101, Harold Ward and Ken Born, of UE-FE Local 108.

Members of the delegation also

Scab 'Casey Joneses' Wreck 3 Locomotives

CHICAGO.—Green supervisory help, ordered to take over the jobs of striking switchmen, this week caused a wild commotion at the LaSalle Street Station.

The supervisors failed to put the New York Central Pacemaker diesel locomotive on the turntable properly. As it spun around it rammed a Rock Island switch engine, sending it on a four-block runaway trip intended. The switch engine finally crashed into another NYC diesel. Total damage: three wrecked locomotives.

spoke to Ald. Archibald Carey, who was very cooperative and called government officials in Washington in their presence.

MEANWHILE, trainmen and others this week reacted strongly to an editorial in the Chicago Sun-Times which called the striking railroad workers "traitors to their country."

The Sun-Times, bombarded with protest letters, was compelled to reprint some of them. One letter by A. N. Overton declared: "No, the railroad switchmen are not traitors, as you said in your editorial. They are just sick and tired of wage inequalities."

Another letter said: "We have railroad employees fighting in Korea, and when they come back I imagine they would like better working conditions."

PLAN PRESENTATION OF THE NEGRO IN CULTURE

CHICAGO.—Negro History Week will be observed by the Chicago Council of the Arts, Sciences and Professions with a dramatic presentation on Sunday, Feb. 18, 8:15 p.m., at the Eleventh Street Theatre, 72 E. 11th St.

The script, "Lift Every Voice," by Margaret Goss Burroughs, of the South Side Art Center, dramatizes the contribution made by the Negro to the cultural life of the nation.

Under the direction of Nate Caldwell of the Chicago Radio Council and the Roosevelt College Radio Workshop, an outstanding group of Negro artists will participate in the program. Afro-Cuban dances by the Jimmy Payne group and ballet by Donald De Holt will illustrate the development of the

Negro artist along classical and formal lines, as well as interpretation of the primitive.

Soprano Dorothy Bradley, ballad singer Richard Crolley, pianist Genevieve Sims and the Pre-Professional Guild, young people's chorus directed by Virgil Abner will present the musical program. The well-known poet Joe King will read selections from his own work.

The performance is being held for the benefit of the newly established A. S. P. Cultural Center and the South Side Art Center.

The Meaning of Martinsville

(Continued from Page 1) done a group of savage Nazi butchers in Germany."

These are some of the facts which explain why some of the gains so bitterly wrested by the Negro people during the early 40's are being destroyed during the early 50's, he declared.

"And our people will understand also the revival of Uncle Tomism which today compares with the period following Reconstruction.

"The savage blows against our people," he said, "are not softened by the caresses which the white chauvinists bestow on an Edith Sampson, a John Senegast, a Bill Dawson or a Willard Townsend."

THEY have received cash payment for the job of selling the war to the Negro people—their Judas role stands out sharply against the background of the Martinsville massacre."

Lightfoot declared that the Negro people reject the position of Rep. Adam Powell who agreed to stop fighting for Negro rights "for the duration."

"Struggle—not surrender—is the mood of our people today," the Communist leader declared, "nor will they follow those who are themselves ensnared in the two old parties of reaction and chauvinism."

LIGHTFOOT who has led im-

portant mass struggles during his 20 years in the Communist Party, was given recognition by the recent national convention of the Communist Party which elected him to its highest body.

He recounted the emphasis on the Negro question given by that historic convention and the election of six Negroes to the 22-man national committee.

"That convention had profound significance for the Negro people," he declared, "and has frightened those who are still trying to harness the Negro people to the two old parties."

He cited an editorial in the Pittsburgh Courier which betrayed this fight in an editorial entitled "Operation Negro" which expressed alarm that the Communist Party convention had once again shown that it is the only party in which democracy is a living reality.

"OUR PARTY, from Scottsboro to Martinsville and from the relief and eviction struggles of the 30's to the FEPC and housing struggles of today, has made historic advances of the Negro people possible," said Lightfoot.

"As a result, we are proud to be known today as the party of the Negro people."

He declared that the living content of Negro history Week is in seeking out the lessons of history on how the Negro people can make further advances.

"WE WILL move ahead by ally-

ing the Negro people fully in the camp of peace and playing our full role within the struggles of the working class, Negro and white," he said.

"Our people must root themselves among the rank-and-file of the trade unions, finding more militant forms of struggle through which to express the unity of Negro and white around basic demands."

"And finally, we must isolate the Uncle Toms and destroy their influence among our people." The tragedy of Martinsville, Lightfoot added, "has burned these lessons into our hearts and our minds."

"We must draw the full meaning from one of the most barbaric assaults in the history of our people."

The Worker

New York-Harlem
Edition

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In 2 Sections, Section I

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The New York-Harlem Edition of The Worker

This issue of the New York-Harlem Edition of The Worker marks the merger of the Harlem Edition and the regular Two-Star Edition. The editors of The Worker consider this an important change. We consider the developments in the Harlem community to be the concern of ALL New Yorkers. We feel, also, that Harlem residents should be acquainted through our pages with what is going on in every other community.

Our paper believes in, and fights for, the unity of Negro and white. We hold that white workers and progressives have as a responsibility the fight for the rights of the Negro people as an important part of the fight for peace and to defeat our home-made fascists.

We call on our readers to use this edition of our paper in the fight against white supremacy and racist poison on the job, in lily-white neighborhoods, or wherever it shows itself. And we would appreciate further suggestions as to how we can better contribute to the unity of Negro and white, to the full liberation of the Negro people in alliance with the working class.

— The Editors.

Negro History Week

— See Magazine Section —



MRS. JOSEPHINE GRAYSON (second from left), widow of one of the executed Martinsville Seven, Francis D. Grayson, participating in the Sunday night vigil at the White House with her youngest son, James Walter, four, and William Patterson, executive secretary of the Civil Rights Congress. President Truman refused to see Mrs. Grayson, who came to Washington with her five children.

MASS MEMORIAL SET TO HALT MORE 'MARTINSVILLES'

Harlem Rally Mon. to Map Fight for Other Negro Victims

— See Page 3 —

Pass 10,000 Mark; Sub-Getters Up Goals

The campaign for 30,000 subscriptions for The Worker went over the 10,000 mark last week, as supporters of the paper throughout the country stepped up their activities in its behalf.

The campaign is scheduled to end on Feb. 25. It started rolling seriously less than two weeks ago.

Figures in the chart (Page 8) show mail subscriptions received in The Worker business office as of Tuesday. Several hundred home delivery subs and many others not yet received by the business office, swell the actual total obtained in the campaign thus far to about 12,000.

Following New York's lead, Illinois supporters have increased their goal from 2,000 to 3,000 subscriptions. With 1,100 actually obtained to date,

campaigners in that state have set themselves the job of hitting the original 2,000 goal by Feb. 12, and then going on from there for another thousand by Feb. 25.

"The mounting struggle for peace and the excellent response of the people to the sub drive open new perspectives for going over the top in Illinois," Gilbert Green, Illinois Communist Party chairman, and Claude Lightfoot, secretary, declared in a statement explaining their support to the decision to increase the state goal by a thousand.

New Yorkers jacked up their quotas from 10,000 to 18,000 less than three weeks ago. Together with home delivery subscriptions, they hit the halfway mark of 9,000 last Sunday, and expect to go to

nearly 13,000 by the end of this week.

Brooklyn campaigners remained far in the lead, with two-thirds of their 5,500 goal already reached. They hope to reach 5,000 subs, or only 500 short of their goal, by the end of this week. The original target of 3,000 set at the beginning of the campaign has already been left far behind.

Five Brooklyn communities have gone over the top, and have launched a drive for 25 percent above their goals.

Manhattanites, with more than 1,200 subs in last week, outstripped Brooklyn for the first time since the campaign opened. They are shooting for 1,500 this week, which will bring them to 65 percent of their goal of 7,000.

Tenants Lobby Tuesday to Fight Rent Hike

— See Page 2 —



Tenants Move on Albany Tuesday to Fight Rent Hike

The largest tenant delegation ever organized is expected to converge on Albany, Tuesday, Feb. 13, to force the Dewey-controlled Legislature to defeat the McGoldrick rent boost steal. Unless the Legislature acts by Feb. 15, the plan set forth by Joseph D. McGoldrick, state rent czar, automatically opens the door to 15 percent rent boosts and numberless evictions.

Despite efforts of newspaper headlines to make it appear that the battle is about over and lost for the tenants, members of the New York Tenant Council, of unions affiliated with the United Labor Action Committee, and the American Labor Party, making up the mass lobby, are determined to force a showdown with the GOP administration.

By its action last week, the Republican majority has shown that it wants to avoid a showdown vote on the McGoldrick plan. It would rather the landlord-favoring scheme went into effect without a show of hands in order to escape the wrath of the voters. By a vote of 81 to 65 the Assembly voted last Monday to block a Democrat-

ic move to bring out a resolution disapproving the McGoldrick plan. In that vote three Republicans broke ranks to join the Democrats.

However, a big fight around the disapproving resolution of State Sen. William Bianchi, Republican-American Labor Party, is expected to break out on Tuesday when hundreds of delegates will be on hand to watch the floor fight.

If the Bianchi measure passes the Senate where a switch of five votes are needed, the measure then goes to the Assembly. The switch is by no means out of the question. With delegates on hand from New York City and upstate cities, who are sensitive to tenant pressure may be forced to go along with the Democrats. The Democrats may also be forced to put up a fight because of the pres-

ence of the delegates.

In addition to the tenant lobby hundreds of other citizens, including parents, teachers, trade unionists, are expected to swamp Albany for the budget hearing. All in all they will make up one of the largest lobbies seen in the Capital in recent years.

The 81 to 65 vote in the Assembly shows that the lines are not so frozen even among the Republicans that a shift cannot be effected. The 16 vote majority won by the Republicans can be whittled down with consistent pressure from now until February 15. A strong possibility exists for revisions of the 15 percent increase mass eviction bill.

Democrats are already on the spot with consumers for Mayor Impellitteri's increased tax demands.

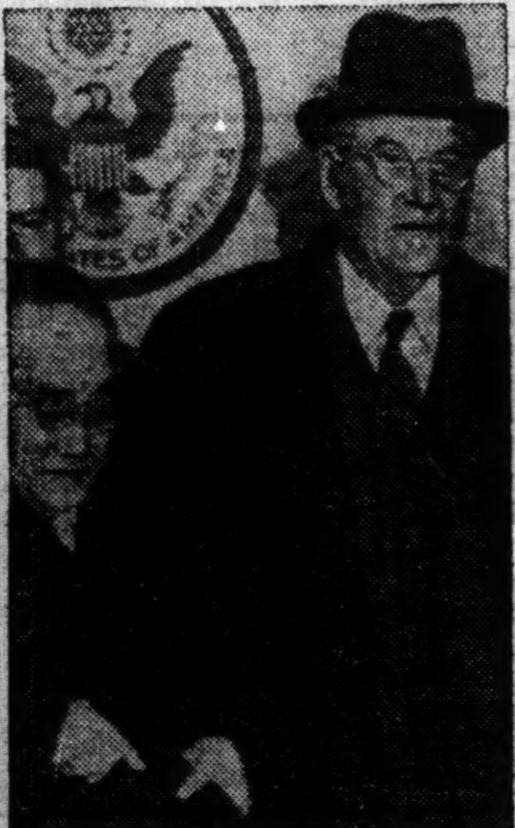
UN Gags China's Voice on Charge Against U. S. Gov't

Having forced the delegate of People's China to return home last December by cutting off debate on the charge of U. S. aggression in China, the United Nations majority abruptly returned to its discussion this week. But the discussion in the Assembly's main Political Committee was launched in the absence of a Peking spokesman, and without prior announcement to China.

People China's envoy, Wu Hsueh-chuan, had been prevented, before his departure, from delivering a speech on his country's charges. This week, despite a request from Chinese Foreign Minister Chou En-lai that Wu's speech be read to the UN and distributed, the Washington-dominated Political Committee majority upheld a ruling by 32 to 6, with 16 abstentions, that the speech not be heard.

Before the committee, S. K. Tsarapkin charged that investigations by People's China revealed that from Aug. 31 to Dec. 31, U.S. planes violated Chinese soil on 328 occasions, with 16 killed and 115 injured. Some 1,500 American planes took part in these air attacks over Manchuria, Tsarapkin said, and charged that they were part of an "aggressive" policy against People's China.

In a new resolution on the subject submitted by the Soviet



WARMAKER John Foster Dulles is pictured with Japanese Prime Minister Shigeru Yoshida (left) on the way to a conference with Gen. MacArthur in Tokio. Dulles offered a pact under which U.S. troops would remain after a peace treaty.

Scanning the News

Asks Stand on Re-Arming Nazis

BEN GOLD, president of the International Fur and Leather Workers, invited Jacob S. Potofsky, president of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers, and Joseph Breslaw, manager, Local 35, International Ladies Garment Workers, to join him and other trade union leaders in addressing a rally to protest German rearmament...

Extensive plans for celebrating the 70th birthday on Feb. 25 of William Z. Foster, national chairman of the Communist Party, were announced... The American Labor Party called on Gov. Dewey to honor his public pledge to ensure public hearings on the state civilian defense bill, which would give the governor dictatorial powers... Louis Weinstock, veteran painters' leader, was reinstated in the industry's welfare plan, after having been ousted from it by the reactionary administration of Painters District Council 9. It was under Weinstock's leadership that the welfare plan had been won.

The widow of Herman Newton, a Negro slain on Memorial day, 1949, by a Brooklyn cop, was awarded \$50,281 damages in Kings County Supreme Court. Mrs. Lottie Newton, the mother of one child, had been on relief since her husband was slain...

Helps Gangland Big Shots

HARRY BRIDGES, president of the International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union, told the Marine Cooks & Stewards that his organization will support their fight against AFL and CIO raids.

The Australian government threatened to use force to get workers back on the job as coal and rail strikes spread, and dock workers warned that they will refuse to work overtime because of an unsatisfactory wage award...

Thirty-nine Protestant ministers, Jewish rabbis and other religious leaders from New York and Connecticut urged the New York State Board of Regents not to ban the showing of the film, *The Miracle*, Farmers of New Jersey and Pennsylvania, meeting in the eastern division convention of the Farmers Union, called for "peace and parity, the two essentials for the family-sized farm..." More than 20,000 signatures of a petition urging freedom for Lt. Leon Gilbert were sent to President Truman by the Los Angeles Civil Rights Congress.

For the second time in recent months, Sen. Pat McCarran, author of the police state law which bears his name, tried to block contempt citations and prosecution for some of the nation's biggest operators of organized gambling and vice... Editor & Publisher, organ of the newspaper industry, condemned the Newsdealer Association efforts to restrict Daily Worker sales, and reaffirmed the right of the paper to publish and circulate freely...

Joe McCarthy's Praise

Fifty Ku Kluxer gangsters used heavy sticks and a gun butt to beat Mrs. Evergreen Flowers, Negro mother, in her Whiteville, N.C. home. The New York Jewish Daily Forward had to run a retraction of one of its anti-Soviet stories, when the subject of the story, Mordecai Namir, head of the Israeli labor federation, Histadruth, cabled the statement that he had only "praise and gratitude" for the Soviet government's aid in his search for his aged mother...

The National Labor Conference for Peace voted support for the People's Peace Lobby in Washington, March 1... Sen. Joseph F. McCarthy (R-Wisc) well-known tax-evader and witch-hunter, applauded the freeing of top Nazis as "extremely wise..." Thurgood Marshall, counsel for the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, in Japan investigating the courts martial of 39 Negroes enlisted men and officers, cabled home that there is no doubt but that there was Jimcrow bias in the cases...

The U. S. Immigration Service arrested 83 Chinese residents in three Brooklyn raids... Legislative aides of Gov. Herman Talmadge of Georgia introduced a bill which would end public schooling and turn the schools over to private enterprises if courts should rule that Negro students must be admitted to classrooms hitherto restricted to whites only.

Dodge Workers Rap Methods Of Wage-Price Freeze Board

DETROIT.—Dodge Local 3 of the CIO Auto Workers Union at a recent membership meeting adopted a resolution against the way the wage-price freeze has been put into effect.

They demanded firing of the whole wage-price stabilization board. The local has a membership meeting of some 30,000 members and is the second largest local in the UAW-CIO.

The resolution was brought into the meeting by the local UAW com-

mittee. The discussion on the entire issue of freezing wages and freezing prices at the present level was sharply scored by the rank and file workers in the discussion.

The immediate response of the Dodge unionists was in sharp contrast to UAW president Walter Reuther and his International Executive Board who while in session this week here have so far made no protest of any kind but are reported "studying" the situation.

Mass Memorial Called To Stop More 'Martinsvilles'

Pilgrimage For Peace

Trek to Washington March 1st will ask \$64 Peace Question

Laverne Miller, a GI in Korea, implored his parents in Marcus, Ia., to write to their Congressmen and find out why American boys are freezing in battlefields thousands of miles from home.

His letter appearing in the Marcus News asks his parents to ask their representatives "to give you a reason, a good one, why the war is being waged and then ask them if they think it is worth the price for what we may attain over here."

Laverne Miller tells his parents that he tells his buddies to "stop griping" and write to their Congressmen asking the same question.

This \$64 question of the day will be asked by thousands on Thursday, March 1, when a Peace Pilgrimage to Washington, D.C. is scheduled to take place. Laverne's letter was mailed to the office of the American Peace Crusade, "sponsoring the Pilgrimage, by one of the delegates."

SIXTY - FIVE prominent Americans, including Nobel Prize Winner and world-famous author Thomas Mann, four Protestant Bishops and leading scientists, writers, Negro leaders and trade unionists, have joined in forming the Crusade. Its call declares, "We must abandon the needless, futile sacrifice of American lives in Korea and the destruction of that country. Let us negotiate peace with China."

"We cannot wait for peace—we must win it," is one of the slogans on the call.

The day in Washington will be taken up with visits to Senators and Congressmen in their offices and in Congress from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. and then with reports from state delegation meetings on Congressional meetings. At 7:30 a mass rally for peace will be held at Turner's Arena, 1341 W. St., N.W., Washington, D.C. Address of the American Peace Crusade office in New York City is 1186 Broadway. Scores of requests have been received here for thousands of copies of the Crusade Call for nationwide distribution.

REPRESENTED in the Pilgrimage will be spokesmen for women, Negro, youth, labor, farm and religious groups.

The National Labor Conference for Peace has voted to support the Crusade, through its national committee. A Chicago meeting attended by 66 delegates from California, Iowa, Michigan, Illinois, Wisconsin, Indiana, Ohio, Upper Peninsula Michigan and New York. Some 20 percent of the delegates were from AFL, 40 percent from CIO and 40 from independent unions.

Fred Stover, president of the Iowa Farmers Union, in becoming one of the initiating sponsors wrote, "Iowa farmers are ready for action on peace and firm opposition to war. Sentiment is not just moving out but it has moved."

By Mel Fiske

With grief and anger, the people of the country and world buried seven new martyrs this week. Their names—Joe Henry Hampton, Howard Hairston, Booker Millner, Frank Hairston, John Taylor, James Hairston and Francis Grayson—are engraved on the hearts of millions throughout the world who fought to the last to stop the Virginia executioner.

But the switch was ordered thrown by President Truman and his band of legal lynchers in Washington and the South, and the Martinsville Seven—six Negro youths and the father of five young children—were burned to death in the electric chair last Friday and Monday to satisfy the lynch appetite of the Negro haters.

The world storm of protest that failed to halt the hand of the executioner raged over the graves of the seven innocent men. It rose to block the legal lynchings now being prepared for 20 Negroes in death cells around the country and 50 Negro soldiers in Korea and Tokyo.

IN NEW YORK'S Harlem, where all-night vigils by thousands sought to save the seven Martinsville frame-up victims, the widow of one of Georgia's lynch martyrs, Mrs. Amy Mallard, called a Memorial Meeting for the Martinsville Seven and for John Derrick, the Negro veteran murdered by New York cops.

Joining her were a score of church and labor leaders, and civil rights fighters Paul Robeson and William Patterson. The memorial will be conducted in Rockland Palace, at 155 St. and Eighth Ave., Monday at 7:30 p.m. to unite "all who believe in justice and freedom" in the defense of the 70 Negroes now being readied for the rope and lash of the modern day slave-masters.

There's Willie McGee—ordered to die in Mississippi March 20.

There are the Groveland Three, whose appeal from death convictions is before the U. S. Supreme Court.

There are the two Daniels cousins in North Carolina, Thomas Edwards in Maryland, James Arlington in Alabama, Paul Washington, Ocie Jugger and Edward Honeycutt in Louisiana; Wesley Wells and Jerry Newsom in California; Clarence Henderson in Georgia; Raleigh Speller in North Carolina.

There are Mrs. Rosa Ingram and her two sons in Georgia, and countless others hidden from sight in numberless cells around the nation.

THEN THERE are 50 Negro soldiers courts martialed to sentences of 15 and 20 years hard labor by white officers in Korea and Tokyo. Army authorities in the Pentagon in Washington are now reviewing their sentences. Their reviews then go to President Truman who consigned Lt. Leon Gilbert to 20 years at hard labor for trying to protect his men.

The executions of the Martinsville Seven told the world the U. S. government is spreading its war

(Continued on Page 11)



WILLIE MCGEE



"DON'T DRAFT MY DADDY—I WANT PEACE" says the sign carried by one of the 50 children who participated with their parents in the Southern California Peace Council demonstration in Los Angeles.

Postpone Trenton Six Trial for a Month

By Abner W. Berry

TRENTON, N. J.—A prosecutor's inflamed appendix halted the second trial of six Negroes in which the State of New Jersey sought death penalties on framed evidence. The six Negroes, known widely as "The Trenton Six," who, according to the record of

their first trial in 1948, should be free men today, must suffer another month in jail until their case is called March 5. Then they must return to the brutal suspense of the cat-and-mouse frame-up game—with their six lives as the stake—against overwhelming odds.

The defendants are, Collis English and Ralph Cooper, both 25; James Thorpe and John McKenzie, 26; McKinley Forrest, 35, and Horace Wilson, 37.

When Superior Court Judge Ralph J. Smalley granted the prosecution motion for a mistrial Tuesday morning, the frame-up pattern had already been set. The motion was granted on the basis of County Prosecutor Mario H. Volpe's emergency appendectomy performed that morning.

VOLPE, on the preceding day, had fought for his right to demand six Negro lives on the same framed evidence which had resulted in the 1948 death sentences for them. Under the hammering of defense counsel, led by Arthur Garfield Hays and the former Trenton Judge, George Pelletteiri, the rotund, nattily-dressed Volpe had addressed the court in the voice and manner of hurt innocence protesting his right to keep from the defendants police and city records proving their innocence.

Frank Lawton, Volpe's chief assistant who examined prospective jurors, monotonously and nasally whined the chief prosecution question to the 20 persons who were drawn from the panel: "If found guilty of murder in the first degree could you find a verdict calling

for the death sentence for these six defendants?" A "No" answer meant a prosecution challenge.

*

WHEN JURORS admitted in defense examination that they were prejudiced against Negroes or had formed an opinion unfavorable to the defendants—as was true of most of those excused—Lawton sought to prove to the court that the question of prejudice was not understood. One prospective juror's husband had been defended by Prosecutor Volpe in 1948 on a charge of having violated the State Anti-Discrimination Law. Both Lawton and Volpe flushed when this was brought out but did not refuse it, and would not agree to a challenge for "cause," forcing the defense to use one of its 60 peremptory challenges. The only two Negroes were eliminated quickly, and Lawton

peremptorily challenged a white juror because he was a steel worker and a CIO member. Only one juror was chosen, only to be dismissed on Tuesday.

Volpe's appendix interrupted the trial, but it did not decrease the efforts of the State to electrocute these six innocent Negroes. The very fact that they are being tried at all, in the face of overwhelming documentary evidence of innocence, exposes the State's intentions. And the case has been made the basis now for maintaining the present corrupt city government in power.

*

THE DEFENSE moved immediately upon adjournment to subpoena the evidence which Volpe hopes to conceal. Attorneys

(Continued on Page 11)

POINT OF ORDER

The Talking Cereal

By Alan Max

I sing the praises today of a dry breakfast cereal. It is Rice Krispies which "snaps, crackles and pops" when you pour milk over it and therefore is advertised as the "talking cereal."

Of all the Wall Street-controlled means of communication, the talking cereal is my favorite. It is the only means of communication today which does not talk war.

What a relief, after listening to the war-war-war-mongers of the radio, to sit down and listen to a bowl of talking cereal!

My one fear is that the manufacturers of Rice Krispies are even now working on a way to get their cereal to crackle: "Our free world is in danger!"

In preparation for the day Rice Krispies talk that way, I am now working on a spoon which will snap back: "Pfft to you!"

'The Great Dramatic Figure'

PAUL ROBESON was recently characterized by Oliver Cromwell Cox in the words: "He looms up as the great dramatic figure in this type (workingclass) of leadership."

The well known sociologist and author of "Class, Cast and Race" concludes that the attack on "Communist leaders comes inherently from the ruling class, but the Negro protest leaders will most certainly become more and more involved." This, he says, is because the leaders who accept the present social system must inevitably identify themselves with the "ruling class."

Leaders like Robeson, on the other hand, he points out, view the "Negro problem as a phase of the problem of the workingclass in its struggle for power." It is in relation to this fact that Dr. Cox views Robeson as "the great dramatic figure."

Robeson is the publisher of Freedom, a new monthly paper which has taken its place in the field of Negro liberation journalism. He is presently touring the country bringing the message of the paper to Negro and white audiences.



PAUL ROBESON

Truman Orders Army To Break Rail Tieup

By George Morris

After 10 days of futile efforts to break the "sick" movement of the railroad workers, President Truman ordered the Army to take whatever measures it deems necessary to break the tieup.

Presumably, the order carries a threat to use Army transportation men as well as armed forces to break through the solidly tied up "gateway" rail centers like Chicago and St. Louis. The Army promptly issued a work-or-be-fired order, and announced that pending an agreement only half of the offered raise would be put through.

The President is reported to have told newsmen that the railroad workers ran out on their contract like a bunch of Russians. Thereby as both sided with the railroad operators who claim a memorandum of contract proposals agreed to by the top officials in December but turned down by the workers, is binding, and he showed the workers that they, like the Soviet Union and its allies, are the targets of the current war drive.

The railroad "sick leave" movement, sweeping to almost every major line of the country's vast rail network, gave the monopolist war profiteers an indication of the real temper of the workers today. The movement has no leadership. It was as spontaneous as anything ever seen in labor struggles; a revolt of the yard employees on the railroads after two years of patient waiting for the 40-hour week for 48 hours pay they have been demanding.

That the government should press contempt charges against the leaders of the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen because the "sick leave" movement was "concerted" action, is ironical. The top leaders have tried every way they knew to get the men back to work from the very start of the movement. The Justice Department's contempt action can be regarded as only a means to bludgeon the officials into taking more drastic action against their own members.

Frantic appeals to the railroad workers that they are "helping Stalin" and endangering the "war effort," had no effect. The workers obviously reject the claim that America is "threatened," and regard the issues in their dispute as more important.

War mobilizer Charles E. Wilson's appeal to the workers was dramatically staged over a four-network radio-television broadcast. The administration, according to reports, felt his plea would carry greater weight than Truman's. Wilson, it was further reported, chose the "soft" and "pleading" approach

and rejected a "tough" speech.

NEVERTHELESS, as a spokesman for the railroads noted on the day after the broadcast, the "epidemic" swept to the Southern Pacific, Union Pacific, Northern Pacific and other west and northwest lines. Only in New York, Philadelphia and some other eastern points did a back-to-work movement develop. But there the "credit" was fully for the top leaders of the Trainmen. They sent a categorical order to return to work and backed it with rumors that a revised contract was about ready. With practically no rank and file initiative among the men, the "sick leave" movement cracked.

The strategy of the Trainmen's officials, it appeared, was first to crack the lines in the east, where solidarity and rank and file influence was weakest, and to only later tackle the Chicago and other areas where the movement began. But the results they obtained in the East were balanced by the spread of the "sickness" westward. The tieup was probably the most paralyzing and widespread in the memory of most railroad workers. As Wilson admitted in his broadcast, 90 percent of the freight cars in the Chicago area, hub of the

What Truman War Tax Will Set You Back

By Rob F. Hall

WASHINGTON.—Your name is Joe Doakes. You are a married man with no children (yet) and you make a little less than \$60 a week. Let's say a rounded three thousand a year. What will President Truman's new war budget, as explained this week by Treasury Secretary Snyder, cost you?

Under the present tax law, you are paying \$360 a year in income taxes. The sum of \$6.90 is being withheld from your paycheck each week.

Under the new Truman tax law your tax for the year will be \$432. Your weekly deduction will climb to \$8.30.

But that won't be all the taxes you pay. If the old Lizzie is conking out, burning up oil, and you decide you need a new car to take you to the plant, the tax collector will be at the salesroom to grab his share. The tax on new cars—now 7 percent—will rise to 20 percent. If you buy a car which sells for \$1,800, you will pay the Federal government \$360, making your car cost \$2,160.

Your gasoline bills for that car will include a tax of three cents a gallon instead of the present one and a half cent.

Need a pack of cigarettes? The tax will be ten cents. It is now seven cents.

SALES TAXES (excise taxes, Snyder calls them) will also be raised sharply on musical instru-

ments, liquor, wine, beer, cigars, refrigerators, electrical appliances and toilet preparations. Some of these may be, as Snyder says, luxuries. But who would call a watch or an alarm clock a luxury? Yet Truman would raise the tax on timepieces from 10 to 20 percent.

Well, the situation gets tough. Instead of having that baby you and the missus planned, you both decide she should get a job.

Bang. You lose your \$600 exemption for her. Your tax will rise to \$584 for the year, or \$11.20 a week. If her job earns \$40 a week (a rounded \$2,000 a year) she will pay \$336 a year in taxes, or \$6.60 a week.

Out of your combined incomes of \$5,000 a year, your little childless family will be kicking in almost \$1,000, or one-fifth in Federal income taxes.

Of course this doesn't tell the whole story. Snyder's plan is designed to raise only \$10 billion of the \$16.5 billion Truman is demanding. Later this year Snyder will be back on Capitol Hill asking Congress for the other \$6.5

BANKERS GIVE THE CUE

Wage Earners Should Be Subjected to Stiff Tax, Says ABA Head

Claims Group Must Pay Its Share Of Mobilization Costs If Inflation Is To Be Offset

A stiff tax on the wage earner as well as on people in the high-income brackets was advocated yesterday by James E. Shelton, president of the American Bankers Association, to offset the inflationary effect of the rearmament program.

Mr. Shelton, who is president of the Security-First National Bank of Los Angeles,

President Shelton of the American Bankers Association calls for taxing low incomes. The clipping is from the Wall Street Journal.

billion. Some say he will propose a Federal general sales tax on everything the consumer buys.

THE PRESENT PLAN unveiled (Continued on Page 11)

Jailed for Fight For Negro Rights

In the front ranks of those Americans who suffered persecution for their leadership in the struggle for Negro rights is the Communist Party's General Secretary, Eugene Dennis.

It was for his courageous and militant leadership in the fight against Jim Crow that Dennis has been imprisoned now for more than 8 months of a 12 months sentence.

"Eugene Dennis is being sent to jail because as a Communist he applies in life the teachings of Marx that labor in the white skin cannot be free so long as labor in the black skin is branded," declared Henry Winston, national organization secretary of the Communist Party, in May 1950, on the eve of Dennis' imprisonment.

"His energies are devoted to the unity of Negro and white, to wipe out the stench of white chauvinism and national oppression of the Negro people."

AT THE VERY HEART of the "contempt of Congress" citation, for which Dennis was imprisoned, was Dennis' refusal to recognize the legality of the House Un-American Committee. In his letter to the committee, April 9, 1947, Dennis charged the committee was tainted with illegality by the presence of Rep. John Rankin (D-Miss). He cited the fact that 330,000 Negro citizens were denied by threats of violence and death the right to vote in Mississippi elections.

Rankin, he said, was sitting in Congress and was a member of the committee in violation of the 14th Amendment of the U.S. Constitution.

Dennis offered to prove during the trial of the case in Washington that denial and abridgement of suffrage rights of the Negro people in Mississippi has reached an extent which reduced the state's representation in the House of Representatives from seven to four members.

THE DENNIS CASE, in fact, provided a legal, as well as a moral-political, opportunity and obligation to correct this violation of the constitution which has continued since the reconstruction days. Dennis was himself directly injured by this violation.

"This court," Dennis pleaded, "is simply asked to decline to comply with the committee's insistence that the petitioner (Dennis) be sent to prison upon the basis of his alleged refusal to heed the summons of that committee, among whose members was a bald usurper of the mantle of a Congressman."

At the same day the Supreme Court rejected the appeal and ordered Eugene Dennis to prison, it also upheld the infamous white primary system in the state of Georgia. Both the Dennis decision and the Georgia decision were Jim Crow decisions. The fight for the freedom of Dennis has been from the outset part of the greater struggle for full and equal rights of the Negro people.

(Continued on Page 10)

Chicago Stoppages Hit Pay Freeze Order

CHICAGO.—A wave of stoppages protesting the government's wage freeze edict developed here this week, set off by the huge demonstration in the packinghouses last Wednesday. The district-wide action of the CIO United Packinghouse Workers was followed up by sentiment for similar actions by other unions which were still in the planning stage this week.

At the same time, a program took shape in many unions for giving "moral and material aid" to the striking trainmen.

DISTRICT UE LEADERS here wired President Truman declaring that, "It is time you used the power of our government to promote the interests and welfare of these deserving (railroad) workers rather than the rail operators' profits."

The wire was signed by President Ernest DeMaio, Vice-President William D. Smith, Secretary-Treasurer Grant Oakes and Recording Secretary Alice Smith.

A similar statement was issued by the Chicago Labor Unity Committee and forwarded to the affiliated local unions for action in support of the trainmen.

MEANWHILE, the UE prepared for action on wages in line with recent policy statements rejecting the pay freeze order. A three-district conference will be held here on Feb. 17 to deal with application of the policies developed at a national UE parley on Feb. 11.

The packinghouse workers acted in the face of the decision by the big packers to call off wage negotiations which had been in progress for several weeks before

Scab 'Casey Joneses' Wreck 3 Locomotives

CHICAGO.—Green supervisory help, ordered to take over the jobs of striking switchmen, this week caused a wild commotion at the LaSalle Street Station.

The supervisors failed to put the New York Central Pacemaker diesel locomotive on the turntable properly. As it spun around it rammed a Rock Island switch engine, sending it on a four-block runaway trip unended. The switch engine finally crashed into another NYC diesel.

Total damage: three wrecked locomotives.

the government's wage edict was issued.

They rallied here to the slogan, "No Wage Increase—No Work!" Feb. 11 is the date when the union contract becomes open for revision of wages.

A STATEMENT by a district meeting of UPWA local officers and stewards lashed the freeze order "which seeks to freeze prices and profits at record high levels and to saddle labor with starvation wages."

The government's move against labor was linked up with the shocking mass execution of seven innocent Negroes in Virginia in numerous leaflets issued here by

unions. One leaflet, put out by UE-FE Local 108 and 141 declared:

"It's a strange kind of democracy Truman and the Washington gang stand for."

"If you are a Nazi murderer, he will save your life."

"If you are a Negro, framed, Southern style, he is too busy to do anything for you."

"If you are a railroad corporation, you are free to rob the country blind."

"If you are a switchman, fighting for decent working conditions, you are a traitor."

"You add it up. Our democracy can be saved—but only if we fight for it now."

MANY UNIONISTS here carried on an untiring 11th hour campaign last week-end to save the lives of the Martinsville frame-up victims.

On Sunday, a group of some 250 unionists reached Illinois Senator Paul Douglas at a South Side Democratic rally and demanded that he call Washington to ask for a stay of execution. Douglas callously resisted any suggestion that he call President Truman, declaring that the President was "too busy to be bothered." The delegation was headed by Sam Parks, district secretary-treasurer of the UPWA, Frank Mingo, of FE-UE Local 101, Harold Ward and Ken Born, of UE-FE Local 108.

Members of the delegation also spoke to Ald. Archibald Carey, who was very cooperative and called government officials in Washington in their presence.

MEANWHILE, trainmen and others this week reacted strongly to an editorial in the Chicago Sun-Times which called the striking railroad workers "traitors to their country."

The Sun-Times, bombarded with protest letters, was compelled to reprint some of them. One letter by A. N. Overton declared: "No, the railroad switchmen are not 'traitors,' as you said in your editorial. They are just sick and tired of wage inequalities."

Another letter said: "We have railroad employees fighting in Korea, and when they come back I imagine they would like better working conditions."

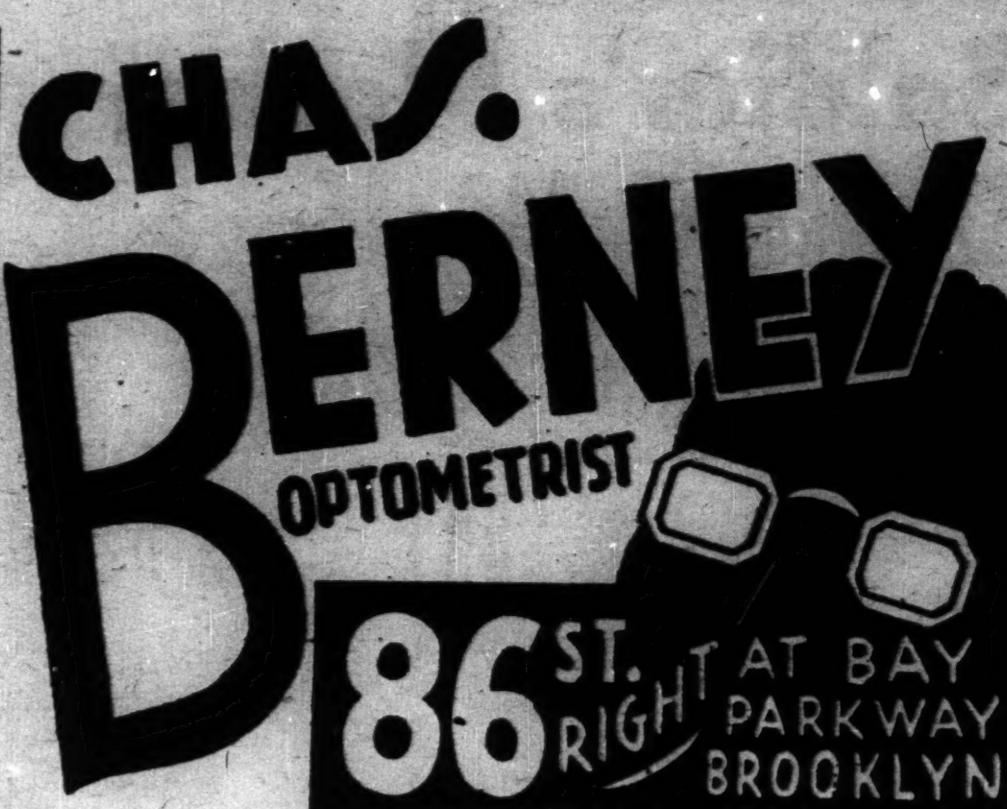
The New York County Grand Jury was still hearing testimony and receiving evidence yesterday in the police killing of Negro veteran John Derrick.

The hearing is expected to have 45 witnesses. Many of them had seen Patrolmen Basil Minakakis and Louis Palumbo slay Derrick just 24 hours after his discharge from the U. S. Army.

CIO for Arbitration

ALIQUIPPA, Pa.—At the last moment before a strike deadline against the Aliquippa & Southern Railroad, which is a connecting line owned by the Jones & Laughlin Steel Corp. and services its local plant, the CIO United Railroad Workers Union agreed to arbitrate its demand for a 16-cent an hour raise for about 300 members, who comprise the non-operating personnel of the line.

The award is to be returned by the end of the first week in March.



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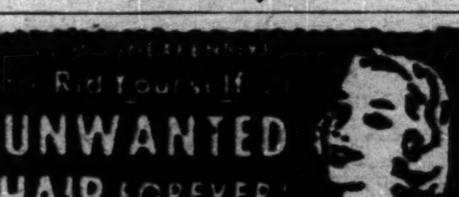
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Soldier's Mother Denied Welfare



ECORSE.—Mrs. Matilda Gonzales (above) of 4553 Seventh St., knows what a war program means. She is the mother of two sons, one Lupe, 27, suffers from a serious lung condition. The other, Alfred, 23, was inducted into the Army last October.

Alfred, who was employed at the Great Lakes Steel Co. for the past four years, was the family's sole support. Despite his need at home he was drafted.

His mother has not received an allotment check since he left. For the last three months Mrs. Gonzales has "lived" on what help she could get from friends and neighbors.

Train Strike

(Continued from Page 4)
Auto Council of the UAW-CIO did.

Most of the expressions of support and pledges of financial aid, have so far come from the progressive-led unaffiliated unions like those in the New York United Labor Action Committee and Chicago's Labor Unity Council. Those bodies called upon the rest of the labor movement to stick by the railroaders and protest the strike-breaking plans of the Truman administration and the Department of Justice.

With the rank and file the 40-hour week is the principal issue. The "memorandum" negotiated by their leaders in December, later rejected by conferences of local representatives, provided a raise of 24-cent an hour; a three-year contract and an escalator clause. But the 40-hour week was left for some time in the future depending on "manpower developments." The roadmen were granted a raise of only five cents an hour.

Lumber Locals Vote Wage Boost Strike

PORTLAND, Ore.—Workers in several large district councils of the AFL Lumber & Sawmill Workers Union have voted overwhelmingly by secret ballot in favor of a strike to support their wage demands which are being pressed in the face of the administration's "freeze."

Mounting prices, the imminent threat of at least a boost in withholding taxes and the possibility of a job freeze has put the workers in an angry mood and is reflected in the position being taken by the leadership of the Northwestern Council, the LSW's highest body.

In practically all of the councils the demand is for an across the board boost of 30 cents an hour.

From Seattle Earl Hartley, president of the Puget Sound Council, reports that the strike vote has carried so far 11,621 to 232. Employers have stalled and the Mediation and Conciliation Service has been notified that the workers can hit the bricks under the provisions of the Taft-Hartley law on Feb. 19.

Gene Tedrick, business representative of the Klamath Basis Council, reports that the strike vote has carried by about 95 percent to back up the 30-cent demand in the Pine area. Similar demands have been made by the Willamette Valley, Central Oregon and Blue Mountain district councils.

Kenneth Davis, executive secretary of the Northwestern Council, said the negotiations will proceed in spite of the freeze.

Louisville Editor Lauds C.P. Fight On M'Carren Act

Tom Wallace, editor emeritus of the Louisville Times, holds that the reversal of the McCarran Act is vital to freedom. The court fight made by the Communists is a "task that should be that of advocates of democracy," he says.

"Even Communists—even at this time—" declares Wallace, "may be good for something. I suppose I am as unsympathetic with Communists as any banker or stock broker in Louisville. But when I read that Communists had engaged two lawyers to test the constitutionality of the McCarran Act I came as near shouting 'Hurrah for Reds' as I could come to hollering for people whose governmental doctrine I dislike and deplore."

Pointing out that the McCarran Act may interfere with freedom of the press, Wallace stresses that the law "seems designed to legislate conformity into people."

If the Communists succeed in defeating the McCarran law, Wallace points out, "the record of Democrats and Republicans will, as a result, suffer grievously."

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Wednesday, February 14 — 8:00 P. M.
AFRICA: LAST STRONGHOLD OF IMPERIALISM

Thursday, February 15 — 8:00 P. M.
**OUR HERITAGE OF FREEDOM FROM LINCOLN
AND DOUGLASS**

Friday, February 16 — 8:00 P. M.
**THE SOUTH IN THE STRUGGLE FOR A FREE
AMERICA**

Saturday, February 17 — 1:30 P. M.
**THE NEGRO PEOPLE AND THE LABOR
MOVEMENT**

Saturday, February 17 — 1:30 P. M.
CHILDREN'S PROGRAM

MASSES & MAINSTREAM'S NEGRO HISTORY MONTH 1951

SPECIAL NUMBER

FEBRUARY CONTENTS

WHAT ABOUT INTEGRATION?	John Pittman
LETTERS FROM NEGRO WOMEN: 1827-1950	
I AM SENTENCED TO DIE	Wesley Robert Wells
WILLIAM L. PATTERSON, Militant Leader	Michael Gold
FOR A NEGRO THEATRE	Alice Childress
UPSURGE IN PUERTO RICO	Abner W. Berry
THE NEGRO SCIENTIST AND INVENTOR	Herbert Aptheker
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Martinsville Spurs Fight

(Continued from Page 3)
against the colored people of the Far East. "This is a real danger signal for the life and welfare of 15,000,000 Negro people in America," Benjamin Davis and Pettis Perry of the National Negro Work Commission of the Communist Party declared.

They said President Truman's re-

fusal to intervene amounted to an announcement of the government's "assumption of the role of the lynch-mob."

From the Communist Party's national committee came a call for white workers in trade unions to join the Negro people against the "mass murder now being organized in the Pentagon and State Department and by Truman."

*

FROM William Patterson whose Civil Rights Congress was in the forefront of the fight to save the lives of the seven innocent men came a warning that "this legal lynching is a signal to the Ku Klux Klan and all fascist-minded elements that 1951 will be open season for Negro baiting and hunting. Stop this new mounting wave of American fascist terror now."

In Richmond, Va., where the men were dragged to the deaths in the state penitentiary, the burning death smell filled the nostrils of the people. The horror of the mass executions spread through the South.

Only Gov. John Battle, and the Negro-hating federal and state judges who had turned down every appeal to spare the lives of the men were unmoved. They said nothing. They left it to the newspapers in Richmond and the South to applaud the executions.

But the Negro people in Richmond, who for the first time in years had moved together against the South's slavemasters, were still moving. Nine hundred of them, joined by a number of whites, had conducted a mass prayer meeting for the men and then proceeded along Richmond's main street to the state capitol to complete their prayers. They wore mourning bands on their arms and bore floral wreaths in their hands.

*

THEIR procession came four days after 500 civil rights fighters from almost every part of the nation drove through icy roads in a caravan to the South that made history. It was the Underground Railway—1951 version. It was the

spirit of the Abolitionists, standing before the Dixiecrat slaves.

Another caravan came to Washington, as well, to establish a vigil before the White House. President Truman, however, sent word that he was "familiar" with the case, but that he wasn't seeing anybody about it. Lawyers appeared before Supreme Court Chief Justice Vinson, Truman's Dixiecrat appointee, and Justice Harold Burton, Truman's Republican appointee. The two brushed aside all appeals.

Only the people responded to the growing appeals to save the men. Leaflets by the thousands and hundreds of thousands were spread in every major city in the country. They were soon followed by an avalanche of telegrams and phone calls to the White House and governor's office in Richmond.

It was not the people who failed to save the lives of the Martinsville Seven. They jumped in with all their might when they learned what was to be done to the men. The 70 other Negro victims of Truman's white supremacy policies are now counting on more of the people to prevent their death and imprisonment.

Trenton 6

(Continued from Page 3)

nounced also that they will apply for a change of venue, moving the trial from the biased atmosphere of Trenton. If this fails, the defense will seek a "foreign jury," drawn from one additional county to the present Mercer County jurisdiction.

Despite the legal alertness of the defense, it was clear to observers familiar with such cases, that the odds favoring the eventual electrocution of these men could be cut down only by a mass movement which would put the world spotlight on Trenton's Mercer County Courthouse.

Defense counsel, in addition to Hays and Pelletier, are, Raymond Pace Alexander, of Philadelphia, chief counsel; J. Mercer Burrell, of Newark; former Judge Frank S. Katzenbach and Clifford R. Moore, both of Trenton.

Brooklyn

DON'T BE a bedbug! Crawl out and creep over to our Party. You'll meet more, more creeps. Dancing, entertainment and eating. Free food! Seriously speaking. Donation 75 cents. Boro Park LYI, 4222-13th Ave. 8:30 p.m.—P. S. Arch Farch just left town!

SUNDAY

Manhattan

THIS IS IT! After weeks of planning and preparation the combined forces of 2 ALP Clubs (4th and 6th AD's) are presenting a program you can't afford to miss! Two large club rooms have been newly decorated for this event. Look at this line-up: movies—continuous showing of John Howard Lawson's great Hollywood film "Blockade" plus that great short, "The Hollywood Ten." Dancing continuous in large spacious pleasantly lighted ballroom. Candlelit Cabaret, for quiet cozy conversation. Refreshments galore plus top entertainment featuring People's Artists. All proceeds go toward a gigantic Lower East Side Campaign to Fight the Remilitarization of Germany. Just grab the Ave 'B' bus at Kleins 14th St. and get off at 6th St. The address is 93 and 95 Avenue B. Festivities start at 8:30. Contribution \$1.

LINCOLN VETS Dance. See ad, tickets available at Workers Bookshop, Jefferson Bookshop, Bookfair, and Vets Office, 23 W. 26 St. MU 3-5057.

SATURDAY NITE Film Club presents "TORMENT," a brilliant study of sex, sadism and school of youth stepping into Manhood." N.Y. Post, 111 W. 88 St. 3 showings beginning at 8:30 p.m. Adm. \$1 to members. Social all evening.

NEGRO HISTORY Week Dance and Cultural Program. Dance to best in bop and calypso. Hear music of Charlie Parker, Lester Young, Charlie Christian, Slam Stewart. Selections from poetry and literature of the Negro People. Saturday, Feb. 10, 107 W. 100 St. 8:30 p.m. Contribution 50 cents. Auspices, Student LYL.

SUPPORT THE Fight to Free the Trenton Six and Willie McGee and avenge the lynching of the Martinsville Seven by coming to Harlem Civil Rights Congress, 53 W. 125 St., Saturday, 8:30 p.m. Social and film showing. Donation 50 cents.

CELEBRATE NEGRO History Week with the Fun Club, Labor League, Saturday, Feb. 10, 257 Seventh Ave. Puppet show, guest singer, refreshments, dancing. Subs. 75¢—9 p.m. until ?? All are welcome.

MEET OR BRING Your Valentine to Unity Chorus Studio Party. Entertainment, dancing, refreshments. 106 E. 14 St., top floor. Contribution 75 cents.

JOIN IN NEGRO History Week Celebration at Harriet Tubman Memorial, Sunday, Feb. 11 at 3 p.m. United Mutual Auditorium, 310 Lenox Ave. Hear Dr. Charlotte Hawkins Brown, Mrs. Esiende Goode Robeson, Mrs. Amy Millard, Mrs. Bessie Mitchell, and others. Contr. \$1.

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What War Tax Will Cost You

(Continued from Page 4)

ed by Snyder is expected to raise \$4 billion in additional taxes on personal incomes, \$3 billion in higher corporation taxes, and \$3 billion in excise taxes.

The heaviest burden falls on the groups with annual incomes of \$5,000 or less. The increases on them are roughly 20 percent. Snyder is going easy in taxing profits because the Administration says that would "reduce incentives."

But corporation profits reached the staggering figure of an annual rate of \$48 billion in the last quarter of 1950 and may well rise to \$58 billion in 1951. Obviously profits constitute the most promising source of federal revenues.

Here is how it can be done.

Taxes on corporations now take only \$20 billion a year, leaving them \$28 billion in profits. The same rate would leave them \$38 billion in 1951 if profits rise as many expect to \$58 billion.

Truman wants \$16.5 billion. Take this from the \$38 billion and the corporations would still have \$21.5 billion in profits after taxes which is as much as they got in the peak profit years of World War II, the best in their history up till that time.

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War-Makers 'Honor' Negro History Week

By Benjamin J. Davis

The Wall Street monopolists and their faithful lackey, Pres. Truman, "honored" Negro History Week by committing the most barbarous crime against the Negro people in the modern history of the country—the mass murder of the seven innocent Martinsville youths.

This had just been preceded by the cold-blooded police lynching and robbery of the Negro veteran, John Derrick, on the streets of Harlem.

The real honor to the Negro people during this month of annual observance of Negro History came, not from the war-mad government of the United States, but from the peace-loving governments and peoples of the Socialist Soviet Union, led by the great Stalin, and from the new Peoples Republic of China, led by Mao Tse-tung.

From the Soviet Union, China and the Peoples Democracies of Eastern Europe came cablegrams to America supporting the Negro people and their allies in the nation-wide demand to save the lives of the martyred Martinsville seven.

THE WORKER honors Negro History Week by making its local week-end "Worker" edition the "New York-Harlem" edition in order to strengthen its long brilliant and unique leadership for Negro liberation.

It is not accidental that the first victims of the Truman-proclaimed "national emergency" are the railroad workers and the Negro people. For together they are the foundation of struggles of the American people for peace and democracy.

The young Martinsville Negroes are martyrs to the lunatic drive of

Wall Street and Truman toward another world war and fascism.

They are victims of Wall Street's monstrous aggression against the people of Korea and China. They were murdered in an attempt to terrorize the Negro people—especially in the deep South—where they are fighting with heroic courage for freedom, democracy and peace. But this attempt will fail.

The white ruling class and its poll tax governments in the South have lost their human instincts. They are thirsting for the blood of the Negro people. It has already set the date—March 20—for the legal lynching of the innocent young Negro father, Willie McGee, in Mississippi!

This orgy of blood-letting of Negroes must end!

*

THE NEGRO PEOPLE cry for and demand peace, freedom and life—not war, fascism and death.

The Negro people and their white labor-progressive supporters can impose this demand upon Wall Street and Truman. Especially will they press this demand with their combined and united strength during all Negro History observances this month!

Already Harlem has begun to step up its "fight back movement." It is moving into action.

Unity, militant struggle and mass pressure is the need of the hour!

Turn out in thousands at the fighting Lincoln-Douglass Day memorial meeting and celebration in Rockland Palace, 155th and 8th Ave., Monday evening at 8 p.m. We honor the memory of the Mar-

tinsville Seven that "It Shall Not Happen Again!"

Save Willie McGee!

No more lynchings—"legal" or illegal!

Peace and freedom—not war and fascism!

Death to lynchers!

Steelworkers Out

WEST LEECHBURG, Pa.—The local union of the CIO United Steelworkers closed down the Allegheny-Ludlum Steel Corp. plant Jan. 3, in protest against hiring a journeyman electrician instead of promoting an apprentice from the union list. About 2,400 workers were involved.

The workers had rejected company offers of a 15-cent an hour boost plus a pension plan equivalent to about five cents an hour more.

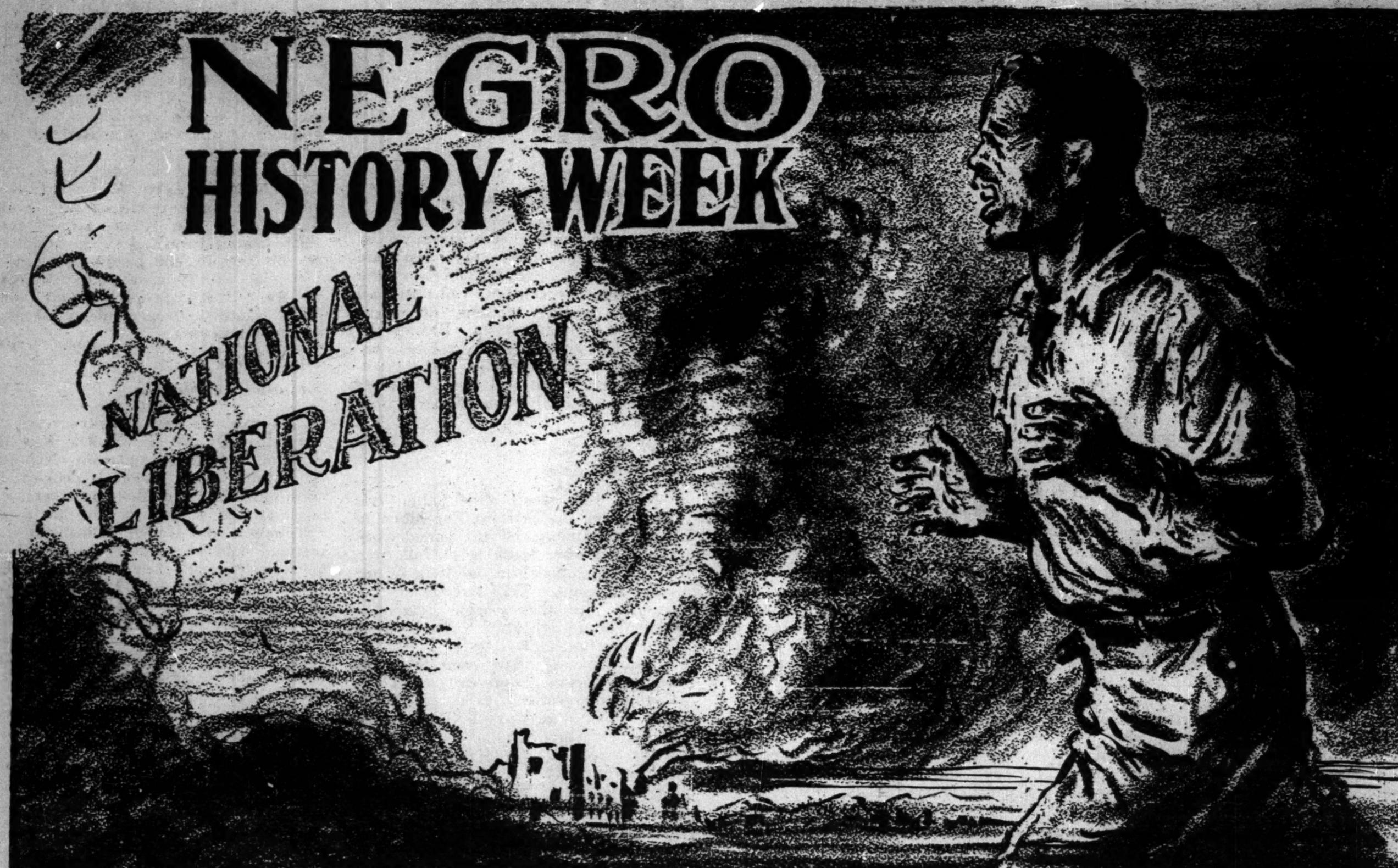
The Worker Magazine

SUNDAY

NEW YORK, SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 1951

SEC

2



'Fire-Bell in the Night'

By MILTON HOWARD

THOSE of us in America with white skins had better learn some of the facts of life regarding our own country. There are two big facts about our land which decide everything that is happening to us.

First, the country's vital industries, which were produced by the labor of the working people (including the engineers, etc.) don't belong to the people who made them. This is the first big cause of our troubles (insecurity, profiteering, and the push to a world war).

Second, there is within the borders of our United States an oppressed, tortured, and super-exploited Negro nation of 15,000,000 human beings. The colonial slave labor of the British, French and Dutch empires have been "far from home" in Asia and Africa. The semi-slave labor of this Negro nation of 15,000,000 persons is right here within the master country.

The financial powers-that-be in our country have their "Malaya," their "Indochina," their "Indonesia," right here below the Mason-Dixon Line.

THE FINANCIAL OLIGARCHY has been sitting on this colonial volcano for several centuries, since the days immediately following the American Revolution in fact.

Thomas Jefferson wrote in alarm to a friend toward the end of his life that the rumbling of the social warfare caused by this "internal colony" was "like a fire-bell in the night." The enslavement of the Negroes by the Southern aristocracy, he saw, was a menace to the development and the unification of the American nation.

This became so acute a peril that it roused the nation, led by Abraham Lincoln, to wage the great Civil War against

the stifling power of the Negro oppressors.

Our present generation hardly knows of the truly enormous revolutionary democratic contribution made by the newly-liberated Negro people of the South to the social advance of the country as a whole. That tremendous story has been told in books about the Reconstruction Days—the decade following Lee's surrender. (See W. E. B. DuBois' Black Reconstruction, Carter G. Woodson's The Negro In American History, James

Allen's Reconstruction, Harry Haywood's Negro Liberation and the works of Herbert Aptheker).

What the Civil War proved beyond any further doubt was the major truth about American history:

That the century-old, unceasing struggle of the Negro people for their right to develop in full equality toward their own independent nationhood is the key to the democratic advance of the entire country. The white members of the working class—whether of the South or

the North—can have no hope of marching forward to democracy, peace and Socialism without a direct alliance to the national struggle of the Negro nation seeking full freedom for its development.

If this was true of the progressive classes before and after the Civil War, it has become the keystone to the entire social struggle in the USA in the epoch of the giant Wall Street trust.

Karl Marx wrote in the 19th century that the English working class could make no advance against its enemy—the ruthless factory owners—as long as Ireland remains a slave of the British.

It is literally true today that the American working class, the trade unions, and the immense popular movement for peace, can make little headway without joining with, assisting, and accepting the tremendous assistance of, the Negro liberation movement inside our borders.

ELSEWHERE IN THIS ISSUE, the reader will find the proof of the fatal price which the white workers and farmers have paid in our recent history for the smashing up of the Negro people's tremendous democratic machinery established in the South after 1865.

They will learn also of the fatal price the organized trade union movement of the 1870's and 1880's paid for their failure to grasp that their own economic and social fate was being decided when Northern capitalism made its alliance with the unreconstructed slave oligarchy for the restoration of the plantation system in the Black Belt.

It was hardly fifty years ago, yet our generation has been robbed of the tremendous political experience which took place in the rise of the Populist worker-

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ORIGIN OF NEGRO HISTORY WEEK

NEGRO HISTORY WEEK was organized around the birthdays of two great leaders of America—Abraham Lincoln and Frederick Douglass—one who defeated the slaveholders' attempt to conquer the whole Union for slavery, the other a Negro statesman and abolitionist.

This edition of The Worker is dedicated to the annual celebration of Negro History Week.

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From Cuba 1898 to Korea 1951

THE first conquest of United States imperialism in its post-Civil War drive for empire was that of the American Negro people. Massachusetts textile magnates, New York and Western railroad organizers, the meat trust and others organized around the New York and Chicago stock exchanges were the real inspirers and beneficiaries of the ultimate white supremacy triumph. The "Manifest Destiny" of United States capitalist power in Latin-America, the Pacific and the Caribbean, required a docile and disfranchised reservoir of cheap black labor in the Black Belt plantation country.

All the power of the state was turned to this task during the last three decades of the 19th Century. White supremacy propaganda backed by law, court, judge, jury, rope, faggot and mob, turned the trick.

And if there are those who don't understand how United States soldiers and airmen are saving Korea and "The American Way" today by burning villages and shooting Korean men, women and children ("everything that moves," the order went), then a peek at how the "American Way" was saved from "Negro Domination" just before that turn of the 20th Century would be helpful.

The colonial policy of the United States big money, faithfully carried out by the governments they have tightly controlled, is based on the brutal lessons learned from slavery and the re-conquest of the Negro.

The Rebellion In Cuba

When Booker T. Washington, in 1895, was making his speech of surrender at the Atlanta Exposition, the Cubans, with many Negroes among their leaders, were beginning their revolt against Spain. Imperialist victory over the American Negroes had prevented the joining of the Negro and

Wall Street power spread out through Latin America and the Pacific after the Civil War, when Big Business had made certain of its disenfranchised, oppressed, cheap Negro labor in the South. Today the Negro people, in fighting for liberation, are challenging the whole colonial structure of imperialism.

By ABNER W. BERRY

Cuban peoples in their liberation struggles.

Three years later—in 1898—when there was a Negro lynching every other day in the United States, the Cuban rebellion still raged. Antonio Maceo and Quintin Bandera, two Afro-Cubans, had risen to leadership of the insurgents and had the Spanish General Valeriano Weyler on the verge of defeat. American businessmen, with \$50,000,000 invested in Cuban sugar and tobacco plantations and other enterprises, became alarmed. An agitation very much akin to that now being stirred against Korea, People's China and the Soviet Union, became widespread. A war with Spain was cooked up, not to save Cuba from Spanish tyranny, but to protect United States investments from the revolutionaries.

It was in this first of the United States' colonial wars that Negro troops were praised for their "valor." Hoodwinked into thinking they were fighting for Cuban freedom, Negro soldiers helped advance the hated plantation system from which they suffered at home. And in addition to Cuba, Negro troops were sent to the Philippines to "pacify" the freedom-loving Filipinos who had been fooled by the United

States slogans of "independence."

Based on a conquered Negro people at home, a working class corrupted by imperialist chauvinism and economic crumbs, the American Colossus of the North built its empire. Cuba and all of Latin-America became dependencies of the United States. Hawaii was taken through a phony revolution engineered by United States sugar growers. Puerto Rico and the Philippines were fraudulently "purchased" from Spain.

Back at The Old Game

Now, fifty years after, after two world wars, the Socialist Revolution in the Soviet Union, and in a period when 1895 Cubans are breaking out all over, the U. S. imperialists are back at the same old game. They intervened successfully in the Cuban revolution which began in 1895. They saved their investments.

Last June 27, they tried the same thing in Korea. And just as in the Cuban intervention against a revolution led by colored men, the imperialists have paraded the feats of the Negro soldiers. But the Korean patriots are not fooled as the Cubans were. And the Negro people—indeed,

the American people—are already demanding that the soldiers be recalled.

The American Negroes, fifty years after Theodore Roosevelt's jingoism and demagogery (he had dinner in the White House with Booker T. Washington) are not honoring Dr. Washington's Compromise of 1895. They were separated from the Cuban revolution against colonialism, but they are not standing apart from the colonial liberation movements now rising in Asia and Africa.

Instead of supporting the imperialist military policies of U. S. imperialism, the Negro people are demanding the abolition of Jimcrow. A mass fight has arisen against a Jimcrow army. The Negro victims of Jimcrow Army justice—Lieutenant Leon A. Gilbert and some 100 others in Korea—are being defended by the Negro people and their organizations. And, in addition to this activity, the Negro people are watching with sympathy the struggle of the African peoples against the brutal white supremacy rule of the big imperialist powers.

Unity With Colonial Peoples

The practical work over the years of men like Dr. W. E. B. Du Bois in bringing together American Negroes and the world's colonial peoples is bearing fruit. Paul Robeson stands today as the symbol of the unity of Negroes in the United States and the colored colonial peoples.

A coterie of Negro leaders who peddle "remember-the-Maine" propaganda in the interest of the imperialist war against the colonies, get reams in the press. But when the Negro people act, when they meet and applaud, it is against the imperialist oppression from which they suffer.

The Negro people are rallying against police brutality, job discrimination, against the "legal lynchings" which have taken the place of the mob

(Continued on Magazine Page 6)

A Negro Citizen of the Land of Socialism

By V. GALINA

MOSCOW

LILY paused in her story and moved to the window. The thin curtain stirred in the breeze and the shadows cast by the quivering leaves of the chestnut tree played in a fanciful pattern on the wall. In the light of the rosy glow of sunset, the girl's face looked thoughtful and sad.

"That night their cabin was burned down," she continued. "Everything they had was lost, they barely managed to snatch the children out of the flames. And at dawn when they dragged themselves, weary and miserable, down the road to the station, they met Farmer Worman, the plantation owner. He stopped his horse, and, sneering, looked at the Negro family he had ruined, deprived of shelter and driven from the place where they had lived so long."

Lily spoke with emotion, her voice breaking from anger and pain. She was telling me about Oliver John Golden's childhood, a story quite usual and hence the more appalling.

Father Came Here in 1931

John Golden was the son of a farmhand on a cotton plantation on the banks of the Mississippi. On that night, which was lit up by the flames of their burning home and pierced by the wailing of his mother and the cries of the younger children, eight-year-old John seemed to grow to manhood. He knew then that he would have to shift for himself. From then on there commenced for the boy years of wandering, backbreaking toil, suffering and humiliation. How many times had he, trembling with fear and indignation, witnessed bloody lynchings of Negroes, how many times had he himself been beaten up only because his skin was black.

John Golden was Lily's father. In 1931 he came with his wife to the USSR to work as a specialist on cotton, and



Lily with two of her friends, Nina Ordinartseva and Nelly Igron.

was sent to Tashkent. Here there began for him a life that was real and worthy of a human being, a life that was free and joyous. The Soviet land became his ardently loved homeland, and he was happy that his child, his little Lily, was born in a free country.

"That's my father's picture," Lily pointed with pride to a portrait hanging over the writing table. We saw before us the picture of a man with strong features that bespoke determination, a keen look, a kindly smile.

"He died when I was quite small," said the girl, "but I shall never forget his stories about the persecution of Negroes in America."

Lily's mother, Bertha, who had been subjected to brutal persecution and mockery in America because she had dared to marry a Negro, cannot speak of those days without weeping.

"It was only when we came to the Soviet Union, only when we became Soviet citizens, that my husband and I felt like human beings," she told me. "It is difficult to express in words the hap-

piness we felt from the knowledge that we and our little daughter had acquired a great loving and solicitous homeland..."

Lily played Tschaikovsky, Chopin, the Negro songs that Paul Robeson sings, and the March of the Democratic Youth. She is in the eighth year of the secondary music school connected with the Conservatory and plans to continue her musical education.

"Is it difficult to combine music with all the other subjects in school?"

Lily laughed. There is an air of such strength and joy about this tall, slender girl, such eagerness and determination to succeed in everything, to learn everything, to keep pace with her comrades! She does well in her studies and goes in for music and sports; besides she is a member of the Young Communist League Committee at school and enthusiastically carries out her social tasks.

Books by Pushkin and Shakespeare, Balzac and Tolstoy, modern Soviet literature, as well as books in the English language, can be found on Lily's writing

table. By the light of her table-lamp she often reads till late. At sixteen there are so many questions that arise, so much that is new and wise and beautiful to be gleaned from the pages of books still unread...

While I was talking with Lily and her mother, the doorbell rang and young voices were heard. Lily went out to greet the visitors. Several girls entered with tennis rackets. Tired and excited, they laughingly related the day's events and made an appointment to meet Lily on the tennis court the following day.

Entered Soviet Tennis Competition

"Lily is very keen on tennis," her mother told me. "Last year she participated in the USSR tennis competitions in Kharkov."

Nearly every day the mail-carrier brings to the Golden apartment letters addressed to Lily Golden, 4 Proletarskaya Street, Tashkent. The young Negro athlete, participant in USSR tennis competitions, Soviet schoolgirl and Young Communist League member, is widely known among the Soviet youth.

"I have read how Negroes are persecuted in 'free' America," writes Volodya Simonov from the city of Chkalov, "and I simply cannot repress my indignation. Why, we here cannot even imagine how it is possible to make one's attitude toward people dependent on the color of their skin."

Lily's letters touch on many things; on books read and liked, on films that produced a good impression; her correspondents tell her about life in their city, about work in their factory, about their hopes and dreams. But most of all they write about the happiness of being a citizen of the Soviet Union, about the fraternal friendship of the Soviet people and their pride in their great Socialist homeland.

"I have so many comrades, so many friends," murmurs Lily as she reads her letters. And her heart is filled with tenderness and gratitude.

Labor's Fight on White 'Supremacy'

ONE of the big lies woven through our history would have us believe that race-hatred and the entire code of Jim Crow laws and practices built upon it, spring "naturally" from the people themselves. It is upon this concept that much of our trade union movement has for many years built its own code of exclusion of "non-Caucasians," segregation, and the more prevalent forms of hidden and camouflaged discrimination. The continued hangovers of this white chauvinism are among the most serious retarding influences on the labor movement.

What is the real source of this slave-owner ideology in the trade union movement? Herbert Aptheker, one of America's outstanding researchers and writers on Negro history, contributed a valuable paper on the occasion of last year's Negro History Week in which he showed that modern white chauvinism is organically connected from its origin with American imperialism. He showed that a campaign aimed at the Negro people flared to an unprecedented intensity as the American trusts assumed dominant influence. The numerous segregation laws throughout the South did not, as many think, originate in slave days; they were enacted in the decades since the late eighties parallel with the huge trust investments in the South and Wall Street's armed conquest of Cuba, Puerto Rico and the Philippines.

White Chauvinism

In the Unions

Aptheker pointed out that this trust and imperialism-inspired drive also brought an annual average of 165 recorded lynchings for the 12 concluding years of the 19th century and ended a period when Negroes held as many as 11 seats in Congress and an even more impressive share of the posts in state and city legislative bodies.

In this article we propose to show that the code of white chauvinism in the unions did not rise from the ranks of the workers but was inspired from the same forces of rising monopolies and American imperialism.

The first major test of labor's attitude to the freed Negro came during the post-Civil War rise of unionism under the leadership of William H. Sylvis and the National Labor Union he headed. The small and weak union movement of the time was as confused on the Negro as on other issues. But it was nevertheless permeated by a spirit inherited from the war. Many union leaders served with the Union forces. Some local unions adjourned for the duration and enlisted en-mass or formed special detachments of tradesmen as Sylvis the molder did. Secondly, Sylvis and his associates among the prominent labor leaders took a strong stand for unionization of the Negro workers on the basis of equality with the whites.

Sylvis had to overcome the opposition of some narrow craft-conscious leaders who measured unionism by its ability to exclude newcomers to the trade. But by the 1869 convention of NLU, shortly after Sylvis' untimely death, there were nine Negro delegates of the 142 attending. This is more than has ever attended an AFL convention in its 70 years of history.

Role of Knights of Labor

Karl Marx, who then headed the International Workingmen's Association of which NLU was an affiliate, had a considerable influence upon Sylvis and his associates. But the progress made, and the fraternal relations established with a national movement of Negro unions, was shortlived. Soon the NLU declined and disappeared due to a number of reasons arising from that period.

The rise of the Knights of Labor in the seventies, the next stage in the development of labor organization, brought a much higher level of Negro-white unity. Although under conservative leadership, the K. of L. structure departed from the narrow, craftism of earlier unions. It strived to win the unskilled and semi-skilled and its many general assemblies were open to all trades. Thus the door was wide open to Negroes.

The labor historian Philip Foner notes the pride expressed in an 1880 issue of

Negro workers helped found the first national unions in the U.S. But, with the rise of the trusts, Jim Crow bars were introduced in the labor movement. Today, Negro workers are a powerful part of the trade unions bringing to them new, militant strength. The barriers set up monopolies and their labor lieutenants must be broken down.

By GEORGE MORRIS

PIONEER OF NEGRO LABOR UNITY

For more than 30 years—even before his membership in the Communist Party—William Z. Foster, Communist Party chairman, has sought to join the struggle of the Negro people with that of the working class. From the Chicago packinghouse strikes in 1917 through the Great Steel Strike of 1919, the founding of the Trade Union Unity League of labor militants in the '20s, Foster proved himself the clearest spokesman for Negro rights in organized labor.

Foster enlarged his working class understanding of imperialist chauvinism in joining the Communist Party and has recently demonstrated his expanded leadership by writing the "Outline Political History of the Americas." In his book, Foster traces the development of all the American countries and shows the working class and those who wish to defeat the imperialist enemies of democracy the possibility and the historic necessity of uniting to fight it.

THE FEB. 25 ISSUE of *The Worker* will be devoted exclusively to the role of Foster, Labor's foremost son, in bringing to the workers of this Hemisphere a consciousness of their power. Readers will get from articles in this special Foster Edition, the story of the former streetcar conductor, deckhand and railroad worker who has become the organizational, intellectual and political leader of his class in the fight to realize the American dream against the present imperialist nightmare.



WILLIAM Z. FOSTER

controlling top leaders of the Socialist Party (not Debs or his associates) became frankly chauvinistic and some among them like Victor Berger who was a congressman and Stitt Wilson (mayor of Berkeley, Cal.), talked much as the Dixiecrats do today. Many of our present-day labor leaders were initially trained in the S.P. of that time.

How Foster Fought It

While some IWW influence and left led groups within the S.P. and labor resisted white chauvinism, although in a hesitant and confused way, it was not until the formation of the Communist Party and Trade Union Educational League headed by William Z. Foster, that a new and higher stage began in the struggle both against this evil and the influence of imperialism upon labor in general.

Earlier struggles like the Great Steel Strike of 1919 and the packinghouse strike of 1917 lead by Foster demonstrated Negro-white unity in life. A series of movements inspired by the left, like the Negro Labor Congress of 1924, League for Struggle for Negro Rights of the early thirties and National Negro Congress of the late thirties and the unemployed movements, were a further development of the same trend.

It was not, however, until the rise of the CIO and the stage when the left still influenced its direction, that we saw a fruition of much of the TUEL's program in the labor movement. Within a few years more than a million Negro workers poured into the CIO and AFL. Many of the latter's unions were forced to either drop or loosen race bars. Negroes broke through to many skills; upgrading of Negroes became a recognized task in some unions and a large number of Negro unionists won official posts in unions.

The Post-War Shift

But the pattern of imperialist influence again asserted itself. This was reflected in the postwar shift of most labor leaders from constructive objectives for both their Negro and white members, to support of Wall Street's drive for war and world supremacy. This explains labor's retrogression in recent years and the declining official concern for Negro rights in many unions. It is not an accident, for example, that this shift brought with it the expulsion of the very unions in the CIO that were known for their struggles to advance Negro rights. The same took place in many AFL locals that were exemplary in the struggle for Negro rights.

But there is a contrasting development that is raising the struggle against white chauvinism to a new and higher historic stage. The Negro people themselves, and unionists among them in particular, have become a powerful, aggressive force. This force rises in vigor with the developing consciousness that the Southern "Black Belt" is, in effect, an oppressed nation that can become a truly free territory only through the self-determination of its Negro majority. This struggle of the Negro people coincides and blends with the great upsurge for liberation among the billion people of Asia and millions of others in Africa and Latin America.

It is those historic circumstances, sharpened by the continued white chauvinistic arrogance of America's ruling class, that are serving to rapidly advance the Negro people, especially the Negro workers, into a base for progressives and a source of the most militant resistance to monopolist influences and oppression. This completely reverses the view long accepted, even by some liberals, that the Negro is a "backward" influence.

Of late we have seen much evidence that the significance of these new features in the Negro liberation movement is beginning to impress itself upon the left-progressive forces. It shows itself in the increased emphasis they are putting on fighting for job and other economic rights of Negroes within industries and for the rights of the Negro people in general. The road ahead is still a long one even in progressive ranks. But a beginning has been made that will eventually have a profound influence upon the trade union movement and working class as a whole.

the K. of L. organ, which said the Negro members "for fidelity of their obligations, strict attendance in all meetings, prompt payment of dues, good conduct and all that goes to make good citizens . . . are not exceeded by any other class of men in the Order."

By 1886 when the Knights reached their high point with a membership of 700,000, its Negro membership was estimated at 60,000 by its secretary John W. Hayes. That number is greater than the Negro membership estimated in the AFL of the twenties when the total enrollment was about 3,000,000.

Had the K. of L. had the opportunity to develop further, both the general historical course of labor and Negro-white relations within it, would have been different from those we have seen. But it was in 1886, when labor moved for the eight-hour day on a nationwide scale, that it also came up against the first trust-inspired nationwide anti-labor attack with its modern techniques of raising a nationwide red-baiting hysteria and strikebreaking on a grand scale.

The Chicago Haymarket Square bomb provocation in May, 1886, and the frameup and hanging of some of the outstanding labor leaders of the time, signaled the vicious drive. When it was over there was little left of the Knights. American labor did not regain the equivalent of its strength of 1886 for a whole generation. But in the meantime a new organization was slowly climbing up with Samuel Gompers its founder.

Early Stand of AFL

While in its initial stages the small and vigorous AFL still reflected the earlier militant, even Marxist influence, and during the 90's refused admission to the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen unless anti-Negro bars were lifted, it was soon apparent that the new labor center was to combine the unions that are tailored and conformed to live with the rising monopolies and imperialism. "Practical" opportunism in the form of narrow craft limits to unions,

aloofness from the monopoly-run basic industries, "pure and simple" unionism devoid of politics or social outlook and anti-Negro bars or eye-winking at discriminatory methods, became the pattern of "Compersism," for union leaders who wanted to accommodate themselves to the new America of the trusts.

The period saw many founding conventions of unions at which constitutions were adopted that plague them to this day with anti-Negro bars (like railroad) "Caucasian" entrance rituals (as in the case of machinists) or a maze of hidden bars like apprenticeship and such requirements built on the concept that a union is as strong as the job-control fence it builds around a craft.

That was also the period when the poison of anti-Chinese chauvinism penetrated many unions, notably on the West Coast. Chinese exclusion became part of the ideological pattern of some unions to this day.

False Ideas Implanted

The labor and Socialist literature of the period reflected strongly this monopoly influence upon the working class. It was in that period that false theories were planted in the minds of unionists like the one that Negroes are "backward" and, if admitted, would be a "retarding" influence in the working class. Along with such seemingly "radical" rationalization was the official labor and Socialist Party policy of evasion of the "Negro problem." Samuel Gompers' 1,300 page work, *Seventy Years of Life and Labor*, does not contain the word "Negro" or "colored" or as much as reference to Negro workers, although a Negro made a nomination speech for him for the presidency at the first AFL convention.

The principal theoretician of the Socialist Party since its formation, the late Morris Hillquit, never even referred to the Negroes in his many books, like *Socialism in Theory and Practice* and *History of Socialism in the United States*. Towards later stages of this period the

Land to the Black Belt Tillers . . .

Despite pious claims about the "steady improvement in the lot of the Negro people," the figures for the last quarter century show a continuing expropriation of the Negro farmer from the land.

By JOHN PITTMAN

"WE THINK as we are," said the poet of ancient Greece. And 20 centuries later, Karl Marx wrote: "It is not the consciousness of men that determines their being, but, on the contrary, their social being determines their consciousness." Which explains how the editors of the biggest Negro weekly, in their Feb. 3, 1951 editorial on "War and Southern Prosperity," could have written as follows:

"With the nation geared to war production, there will be no decrease in the demand for meat, vegetables, fruit and cotton, but rather an increase. . . . This means that 1951 bids fair to be the best year the South has ever seen, and of course this prosperity will benefit all of the people of the South, regardless of color. Anyone who has visited the South in the past five years is well aware that the position of the Negro has been immensely bettered during that period, and it will be vastly improved from now on. . . . The considerably wide gap yet remaining between what is professed and what is practiced along Democratic lines in Dixie, is going to vanish fast with the great economic opportunities now opening. . . ." Hence, says the logic of this editorial, blessings on U.S. imperialism, on Truman and MacArthur, for this beneficent war!

But is this view of conditions in the South today, is its forecast of conditions tomorrow, consistent with the facts? On the contrary, it is not even consistent with reports contained on the front page of the same issue of the Courier. This front page, in fact, is one huge testimonial to conditions of the Negro people throughout the United States, and especially in the South. Typical head-

lines are: "Thousands Stage March on Richmond, Virginia, In Behalf of Martinsville 7"; "Night of Terror In Farm House—Wife Whipped As Mate Flees"; "Charged Cop Beating—\$60,000 Won In Suit"; "Bunche Attacks Segregation of Negro Troops."

Yet, the Courier editors, because of their "social being," their own middle class existence in the North, project the ideas and attitudes generated by these specific conditions into a portrayal of conditions affecting all the Negro people, even those in the Black Belt where the Negro nation is imprisoned.

What are the realities? Changes have certainly occurred in "the position of the Negro" in the South in the past five years, but can it be said that the totality of these changes has been such that "the position of the Negro has been immensely bettered"?

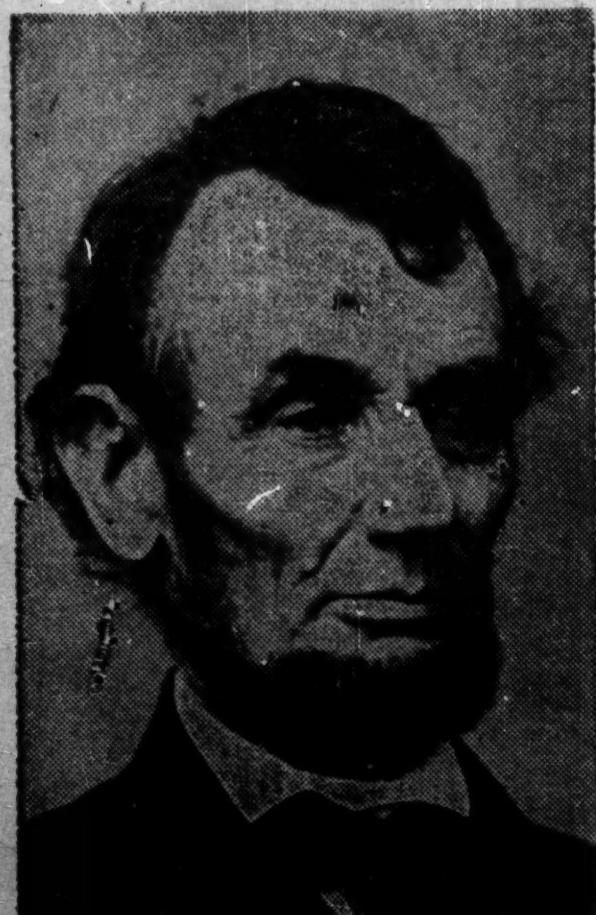
Census Shows Negro Farm Decline

If we look at these changes in the rural Black Belt, where the oppression of the Negro nation originates and spreads its manifold practices throughout the nation, we find these facts disclosed by the 1945 census. Now the main tendency in the quarter of a century from 1920 to 1945 in the 13 Southern states was for the Negro tillers to be eliminated from the land, whereas the number of white tillers remained stationary. The 2,881,135 "farm operators" in these states in 1945, representing 47 percent of all U.S. farm operators, represented a decline of 325,529 from 1920. But whereas the number of white operators fell by only three percent, the number of Negro operators fell by 28 percent.

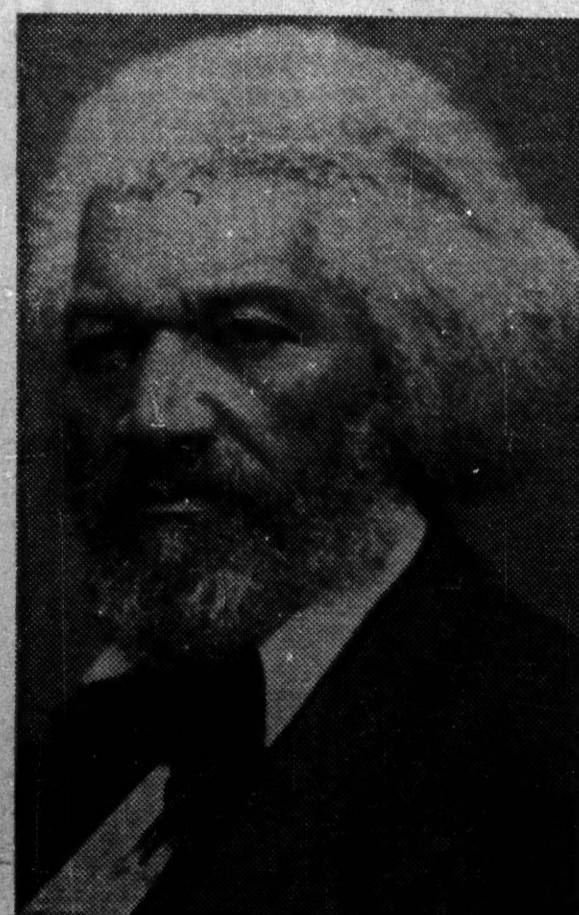
Within this general tendency, there were subordinate tendencies, the most

(Continued on Magazine Page 6)

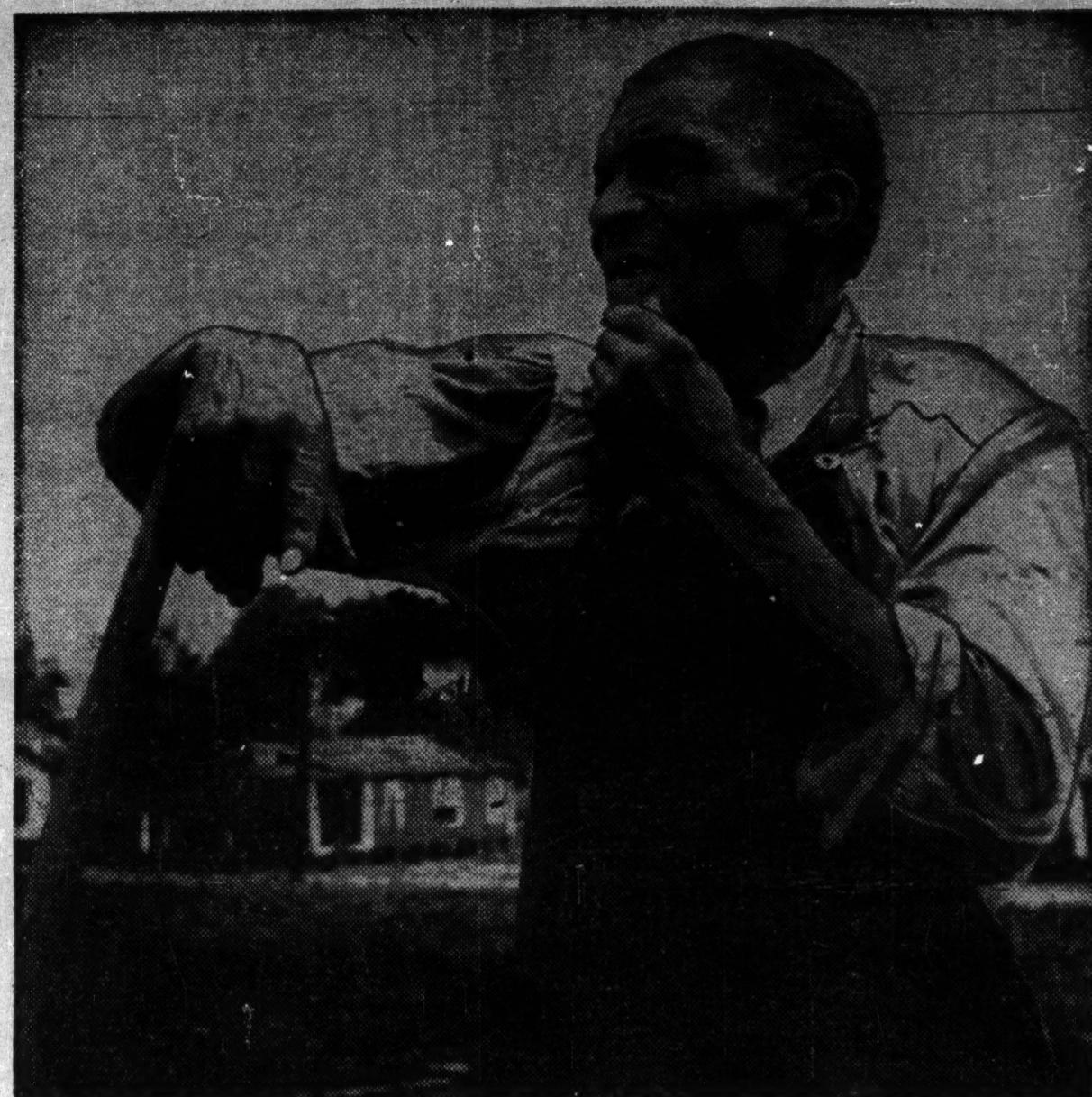
THEIR BIRTHDAYS CELEBRATED THIS WEEK



ABRAHAM LINCOLN



FREDERICK DOUGLASS



Man with the hoe . . . a Negro farm worker near Birmingham, Ala.



A mechanical cotton-picker on a southern cotton plantation. Only the large plantations use machines, muscle continues to characterize farm production in the South and one-crop Cotton holds its grip on the farm millions of the area. In photo below cotton on the porch of a sharecropper's home on the Maria Plantation in Arkansas represents the year's income for this family.

